

Print books are not going anywhere

As digital as stories have become, the good ol' printed book — to curl up with in your favourite chair — isn't going anywhere. In a worldwide study conducted by Naomi Baron, Linguistics Professor, American University, she found that 92 percent of students preferred to do their "serious reading" on paper books. The study included 300 students from across Japan to Slovakia. Similarly, many recent studies agree on one thing — we retain better when we read in print. We remember the position of words and phrases, recall the flow of concepts and events, and engage better with the stories as we take time to absorb each idea that is presented. All of this makes for great studying skills, too.

"My favorite book is *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl. I think children my age should read this book as it'll help build the imagination and increase the vocabulary in a very easy way. Did you know this book was inspired by Roald Dahl's own childhood when he used to get test packages from Cadbury?"

— **Vanishri Shekhawat, Year 5, The Indian High School, Dubai**



"*The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry is my all-time favourite tale. The story tells us how we should look beyond the surface. Despite being a children's novel, this is a must read for all ages as it describes the important things in life in a playful, mystic and philosophical manner. The simple way of writing is what I loved most."

— **Amrutha Sunil, Year 10, ASPAM Indian International School, Sharjah**

"*Billionaire Boy* by David Walliams is my favourite book. I feel kids my age should read this book because it is funny and also teaches you that not everything can be bought with money."

— **Parvathy Nair, Year 5, Hartland International School, Dubai**



"One of my favourite books is *Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld. It shows how a girl, who was once insecure and afraid, is now comfortable in her skin. The book is a great example of self-respect and self-worth, and helps you realise that you don't need to be what society wants you to be. You can be what you already are if you accept yourself as is."

— **Syeda Muskan Ali Zaidi, Year 9, Al Diyafah High School, Dubai**

