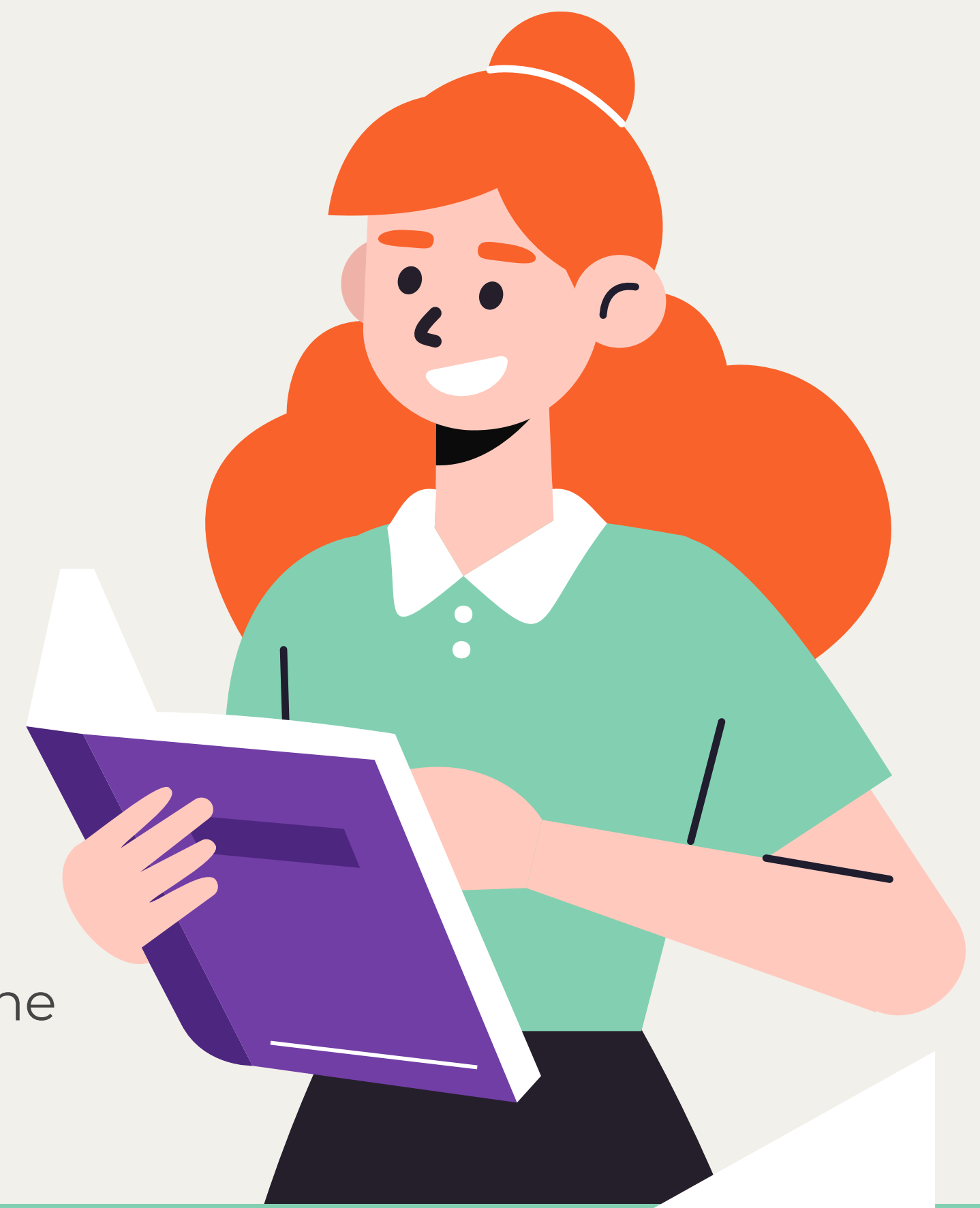


# Reading enjoyment and performance

## in a digital age

An OECD report *21st-Century Readers: Developing Literacy Skills in a Digital World* analyses data from the 2018 PISA test and student survey to report on the reading habits of 15-year-olds in OECD countries.



### How often are students reading paper and digital books?

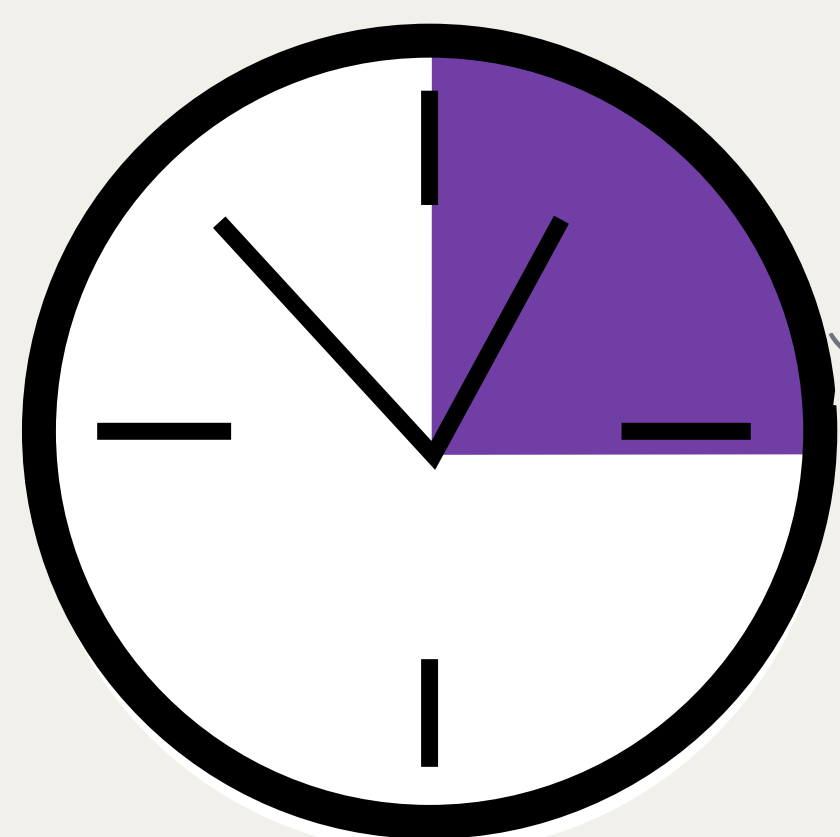
- Approximately **one-third** reported rarely or never reading books.
- **One-third** reported reading books more often in paper than digital.
- **15%** of students read more books in digital format.
- **13%** of students read books in both digital and paper format equally.

### Student reading habits and PISA 2018 reading performance

- In the 2018 PISA test cycle, students who reported reading books on paper more often scored **49 points more** than those who rarely or never read books, while students who reported reading digital books more often scored only **15 points more**.\*\*
- Strong readers tended to either read **print-books**, or balanced **print and digital**. (i.e. read the news and browsed the internet for schoolwork on digital devices, while still enjoying print-books.)



### How often are students reading paper/digital books for enjoyment compared to those who rarely/never read books?\*



Digital book readers:  
around **3 more hours** per week



Print-book readers:  
around **4 more hours** per week



Readers in both formats:  
around **5 more hours** per week

OECD (2021), *21st-Century Readers: Developing Literacy Skills in a Digital World*, PISA, OECD Publishing.  
<https://doi.org/10.1787/a83d84cb-en>

Teacher

\*After accounting for students' and schools' socioeconomic background (\*\* and gender)

[www.teachermagazine.com](http://www.teachermagazine.com)