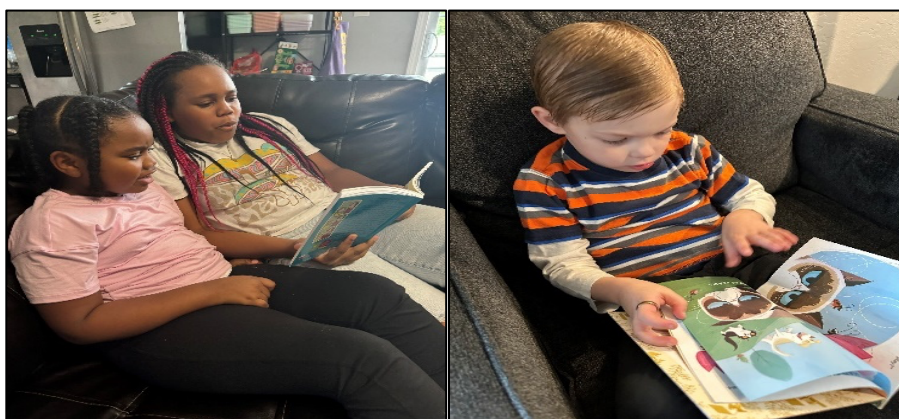**Pictures for Reflection**
Books: A New Technology?

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Kathy Burris (B.A. and M.Ed. Elementary Education, Ed.D. in Early Childhood Education) taught diversity, research, and curriculum courses in the Department of Elementary and Special Education at Middle Tennessee State University. She remains an advocate for children's play, outdoor activity, and multiage learning.

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We don't often do product reviews here, but I thought you might be interested in something I read about in a couple of newspapers recently. It's called the "Built-in Orderly Organized Knowledge" device, better known as a "Book."

It's a revolutionary breakthrough in technology; it needs no wires, electric circuits or batteries, and has nothing to be connected or switched on. And you don't need to remember a password to use it.

In fact, it's so easy to use a child can do it: just lift its cover and you're there! Compact and portable, the "book" can be used anywhere - even sitting in an armchair by the fire - yet it's powerful enough to hold as much information as a megabyte disc drive.

Here's how it works: Each "book" is constructed of sequentially numbered sheets of paper, usually recyclable, each capable of holding thousands of bits of information. These pages are locked together with a custom-fit device called a binding, which keeps the sheets in their correct sequence.

Opaque Paper Technology allows manufacturers to use both sides of the sheet, doubling the information density and cutting costs in half.

Experts are divided on the prospects for further increases in information density; for now, "books" with more information simply use more pages. This makes them thicker and harder to carry, and has drawn some criticism from the mobile computing crowd.

Each sheet is scanned optically, registering information directly into your brain. A flick of a finger takes you to the next sheet. The "book" may be taken up at any time and used by merely opening it. The "book" never crashes and never needs rebooting, though like other display devices it can become unusable if dropped into water.

The browse feature allows you to move instantly to any sheet and move forward or backward as you wish. Most come with an index pinpointing the exact location of any selected information for instant retrieval.

You can also make personal notes next to "book" text entries with an optional programming tool called a "Portable Erasable Nib Cryptic Intercommunication Language Stylus," also known as "Pencils".

An optional "bookmark" accessory allows you to open the "book" to the exact place you left it in a previous session - even if it's been closed. "Bookmarks" fit universal design standards, so a single one can be used in "books" by various manufacturers. Conversely, numerous bookmarks can be used in a single "book" if the user wants to store numerous views at once.

The number of bookmarks is limited only by the number of pages in the "book." The medium is ideal for long-term archival use; several field trials have proven that "books" will still be readable in several centuries, and because of its simple user interface it will be compatible with future reading devices.

Portable, durable and affordable, the "book" is the entertainment and educational wave of the future. The "book's" appeal seems so certain, thousands of content creators have committed to the platform.

Look for a flood of new titles coming to your favorite store soon. (adapted from http://crysa.fzu.cz/ondra/documents/book.html)

Reading: What's Really Happening?

Comprehension	Metaphor
Sense of Protagonist	Simile
Archetypes	Alliteration
Good and bad	Persuasion
Heroes and heroines	Fiction
Character development	Non-fiction
Compare and contrast	Fantasy
Plot	Anthropomorphism
Theme	Futurism
Sequence	Dialogue
Events/episode	Phonics
Expectation	Vocabulary
Anticipation	Nouns and verbs
Surprise and Twist	Adjectives and adverbs
Ponder and Puzzle	Rhyme
Mystery	Numeracy
Pride	Prosocial behavior
Deceit	Kindness
Historical Context	Leadership
Geographical Context	Humor
Cultural Context	Science
Different Family Context	Biology
Fluency	Visual imagery
Cadence	Interpretation
Pacing	Imagination
Inflection	Context of print
Dialect	Poetry
Phonemic awareness	Enjoyment…and so much more!