

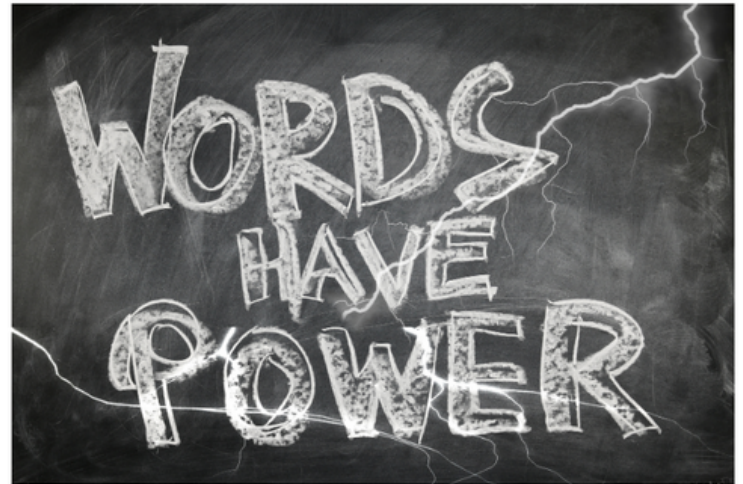
OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

What's New:

VOLTAGE VOCABULARY™

Academic Pathways is excited to introduce a new class to our families!

For any student who wants to prepare for the new Online SAT, which is geared a bit more toward broader mastery of higher-level vocabulary words, or for those students who simply want to expand their lexicon—



Teachers will offer and encourage the study of:

- Latin / Greek roots
- New frequently seen vocab words each week
- Skills to deduce a word's definition in context
- Practice questions of myriad types
- Usage of 1+ terms in a sentence
- Grammar review to put new words into official ACTION!

Why is “deep reading” important?

- Our kids are at max saturation level with the constant stimulation of technology, apps, screens, and scrolling.
- Due to this, **“comprehension modeling” is less present.** When we read printed text, according to Ms. Wolf, we are checking in with the present line, our eyes sometimes drift ahead or go back, but we always are able to come back to the present sentence tracking the lines of text.
- When we read on screens through, only skimming the surface of the text is more likely. This is in part because we are used to scrolling at a certain speed; our goal is just to get to the end of the text box/post.
- **When we skim text, we process it [at a value of] “lesser importance” and this affects the brain and changes our level of attention.**
- Also, it is easier to visualize the information (retention of knowledge) on the page we’ve read; this spatial image is not there if we have read the information on an endless and usually “pageless” scroll.

How do we foster “deep reading” in our students and children?

- Reading only a few minutes a day, for a while, in order to **build stamina.** Start with 10!
- Help them make sure they understand the purpose of what they are reading.
 - Why am I reading this?
- If there is no access to print, slow it down! Encourage them to take notes.
 - Physical note-taking, on a piece of paper. This will aid comprehension if they are writing their notes out, not typing them on a screen.
- Ms. Wolf tries to start and end her day with a book instead of a screen

It’s also in part on adults around them to model “good uses of technology,” and for us to not constantly be on our phones either. 😊



Maryanne Wolf and the New Age of Reading

Maryanne Wolf on the Ezra Klein Show – The New York Times

Podcast/Transcription of the full show provided via hyperlink in this email!

Maryanne Wolf studies how reading works on the brain, as well as how it changes the brain. She discusses in this interview how we should be supporting the “biliterate brain:” a mix of reading on digital medium and print. We cannot simply go back to the “good old days,” and ignore the technology that is here to stay.

According to her we have passed the “hinge moment,” where now most reading done takes place on a screen. She encourages us to share the goal of the “reading sanctuary... where we go when we read our best.”



What is “deep reading?”

- Deep reading is the process of participating fully in the text being consumed. It involves the reader participating with characters and plot on a more nuanced level. This helps shape critical thinking, empathy, and increases attention span.
- Deep reading is much different than simply “reading for information,” which usually involves a light skim.