Name:_____

The Magic of Reading: How Books Change Your Brain

Building Brain Power

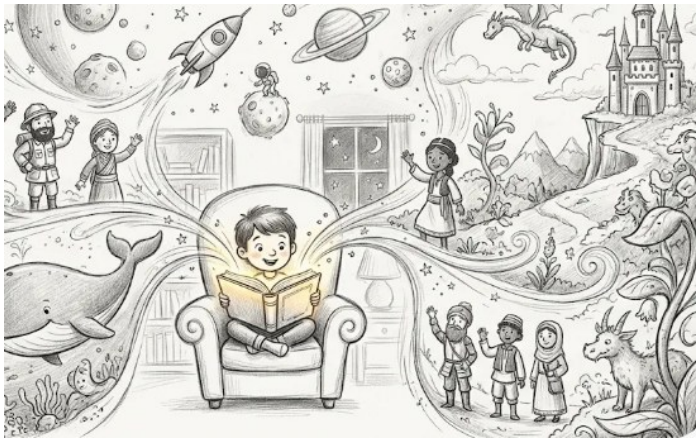
Reading is like a workout for your brain. When you open a book and read the words, your brain works hard to connect letters to sounds and turn them into pictures in your mind. Scientists have discovered that reading regularly creates stronger connections between brain cells. Just as lifting weights makes your arm muscles stronger, reading every day builds your brain's thinking power.

Growing Your Vocabulary

Every time you read, you encounter new words that you might not hear in everyday conversation. When you read these new words in stories or articles, you learn what they mean and how to use them. Over time, having a large vocabulary helps you express your thoughts more clearly when speaking and writing. It also makes reading even easier because you recognize more words right away.

Exploring New Worlds

Books allow readers to travel anywhere without ever leaving their seats. Through reading, you can learn about real places like the deep ocean or distant planets, as well as imaginary lands filled with magical creatures. Reading helps you understand different places, historical events, and how other people live. This builds empathy, which means understanding how others feel.



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1. What is the main idea of the section "Building Brain Power"?

A. Exercise is the best way to keep your body healthy.

B. Reading every day strengthens your brain and thinking skills.

C. Scientists like to study how children read books.

D. Books contain many pictures that help you understand the story.

2. Which two details from the section "Growing Your Vocabulary" support the main idea that reading helps you learn new words?

A. Books allow readers to travel anywhere without leaving their seats.

B. You encounter new words in books that you might not hear in everyday conversation.

C. Reading helps you understand different places and historical events.

D. When you read new words in stories, you learn what they mean and how to use them.

E. Reading every day makes your arm muscles stronger.

3. Which two facts from the passage support the main idea that reading helps you communicate better with others?

A. Reading creates pictures in your mind.

B. Having a large vocabulary helps you express your thoughts more clearly when speaking and writing.

C. Reading builds empathy by helping you understand how other people feel.

D. Your brain connects letters to sounds when you read.

E. Books can take you to imaginary lands filled with magical creatures.

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