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The Educational Benefits of Comic Books and Graphic Novels

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Poster Presentation P8

THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS OF COMICS BOOKS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS

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Comic books/graphic novels are read by youths in the United States. These texts, however, are not typically incorporated into the classroom because of their different format, a belief that they are not quality reading material, and violent content. My presentation will display research that shows educational benefits of comics, particularly with literacy development, English Second Language (ESL) students, language development, and cross-curricular usage. Combining illustrations and literature, these texts are a way to incorporate art into the curriculum. Professionals who use comics in their curriculum also notice higher student involvement, improved writing, and enhanced understanding of text and language. Although in some cases these texts contain racism and sexism, they can also be used in a way that makes youth aware of how certain groups are stereotyped in an unfair way. Comics are a means for students to enjoy learning and make strides academically.