

# **ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN TO ENCOURAGE THAI KIDS' READING HABITS FOR PRATOM 4 - 6**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The study focused on how Pratom 4 to 6 environmental design can enhance reading habits of Thai students in elementary Schools during their free time. The Initial research of three libraries in each Public, Private, and International school shows that the students in these Pratom use the library less than student in Pratom 1 to 3. These main problems are identified: limited time during the lunch break, poor library environment, unappealing activities, media, and group influence. As a result, the aim of the study is to suggest a new reading environment that can improve Pratom 4 to 6 students reading habits.

So, the new reading environment of the experiment was designed by children's needs which are actor, atmosphere, media, and activity. This study had tested in 2 types of schools which are public and private, and the results show that both schools have reading 34.52% higher than who have reading in Library with only 1.78 during their free time. This study succeeds to attract students to have reading habit and read more than before. This research provides useful information for librarian elementary school to create and develop their library to encourage children's reading habit.

**Keywords:** Reading, School Library, Middle Childhood behavior, Environment