

Time to Read 1

Topic 1

Lesson 1

The School Without Walls (1)



Would you like to read... anywhere?

Imagine a school with no classrooms. Sounds impossible?

At Vittra in Sweden, students decide where, how, and what they learn. Crazy?

Let's find out.



The School Without Walls: Sweden's Learning Adventure

Imagine stepping into a school where classrooms don't exist. Instead of traditional desks and walls, you'd discover vibrant open spaces filled with colorful sofas, treehouse reading nooks, and giant mushroom-shaped storytelling pods. This is Vittra School in Sweden – a place where students choose their own learning spots every day. Teachers here champion a simple idea: when you control where you learn, you learn more deeply.

Main Idea

Q u e s t

Choose the main idea of the paragraph:

- A) Traditional classrooms are important.
- B) Vittra School's unique learning environment
- C) Teachers' role in independent learning

A New World of Reading

At Vittra, gone are rows of desks. Instead, ordinary learning areas transform into magical Book Mountains, mysterious Forest Dens, and exciting Stage Areas.

Book Mountains

Picture staircases with shelves full of books on every step! Students can pick up books as they go between classes, making their breaks into fun reading times.

Forest Dens

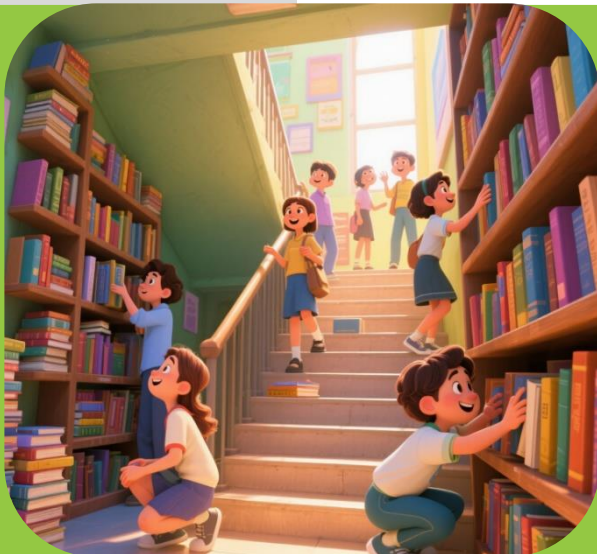
Cozy corners with leafy designs and soft cushions make perfect spots for reading. Here, readers can enjoy their books in peace and quiet.

Stage Areas

Bright, open areas with colorful mats turn into storytelling theaters. Kids come together to act out exciting stories about dragons or mysteries, bringing the words to life.

**Details
Hunter**

Which of the following pictures shows Forest Dens?



Why Break the Walls?

Principal Eva explains the idea: "Life isn't divided into separate boxes. Why should schools be?" Research supports this approach, showing that students in flexible spaces focus better when choosing their learning zones. Furthermore, they share ideas more freely and report feeling calmer in cozy corners.



Details Hunter

Research shows that flexible spaces help students:

- ① focus better ② share ideas more freely ③ _____

Solving Real Challenges

Some problems exist. What if loud group work bothers quiet readers? Designers fixed this with quiet rooms for silent reading. Others wonder if students behave well without teachers watching. Vittra's answer is a "learning promise" — students need to sign a "contract" where they commit to finish daily work before free time. This teaches a secret truth: **freedom** needs **responsibility** to work well.



Words Puzzle

Read the underlined sentences.

What do “freedom” and “responsibility” mean here?

① the duty to do something

② being able to do what you want



Exercise Time

What is the main idea of the article?

A

Vittra School replaces classrooms with flexible, cozy learning zones so students read and learn more deeply.

B

Research shows giving students freedom to choose where they study boosts focus.





Exercise Time

“Teachers here **champion** a simple idea: when you control where you learn, you learn more deeply.”

The word
'champion'
here means...

- A. win first place
- B. strongly support





Exercise Time

What must students do before they relax at Vittra?

- A. Sign a learning contract.
- B. Clean their desks.
- C. Ask a teacher.
- D. Take a test.

Find the answer  in the text!

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Glow Lines Take-away

“When you control where you learn, you learn more deeply.”

Do you agree?

Glow Lines Take-away

“Life isn’t divided into separate boxes. Why should schools be?”

What does ‘separate’ mean here?

A modern, bright classroom with children playing and reading. The room features large windows, a green sofa, and a large potted plant. Children are sitting on the floor, some reading books and others playing with blocks. The overall atmosphere is calm and focused.

Glow Lines Take-away

**“This teaches a secret truth:
freedom needs responsibility
to work well.”**

Which two factors need to work together?

The background image shows a modern library interior. A large, stylized tree sculpture stands in the center. A curved bookshelf is visible on the upper level, and a wavy, green sofa is on the lower level. Several people are seen reading or walking in the space. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

Thanks

In the next lesson, we're going to do zoom-in reading of two key paragraphs in this article. See you next time!