Student Performance in PISA 2009

Reading Literacy
Hong Kong students are stronger in reflecting and evaluating test than in accessing and retrieving information and in integrating and interpreting. They can handle more effectively instruction texts than narrative and argumentation.

Digital Reading Literacy
Hong Kong students have weaker performance than students from three other countries despite their outstanding reading skills and acquaintance with information technology.

Mathematical Literacy
Hong Kong students make a significant improvement in math score when compared with PISA 2006.

Scientific Literacy
Hong Kong students perform consistently well and outperform most of the other countries/regions.

Who Are Doing Better in Reading?
Students who engage in and enjoy reading more.
Students who often use control strategies in reading.
Students who often use metacognition, i.e. being more aware of effective strategies to understand, remember, and summarize information.

Who Are Doing Better in Digital Reading?
Students who engage in and enjoy reading more.
Students who often search for information on line.
Students who often use metacognition, i.e. being more aware of effective strategies to understand, remember, and summarize information.

Hints for Educators
Hong Kong students are relatively weak in digital reading among the literacy domains. Given that over 98% of Hong Kong students have access to computers and internet at school or at home, the reason for their weak performance should be investigated.

Although Hong Kong students have outstanding reading performance, their use of metacognition in reading is not satisfactory. We should identify ways to enhance students' use of metacognition, which is strongly predictive of high reading performance.

Hong Kong has a high percentage of resilient students who attain high scores among students from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, suggesting that the effort made by educators in Hong Kong is effective in helping the disadvantaged students.

Despite its overall good performance, Hong Kong still lacks top performers when compared with other countries/regions. Does our education system make sufficient room for self-development for high ability students? How can our education policy provide resources to support their development? These are the important questions which should be addressed in future.

Hints for Parents
You can do to promote your child’s interest in reading:
Read books with your child.
Play word games with your child.
Go to a bookstore or library with your child.
Talk with your child about what he/she is reading.
Be a role model of reading to your child.

Things you can do to promote your child’s learning:
Discuss social issues with your child.
Discuss books, films or TV programmes with your child.
Discuss school life with your child.
Have dinner with your child.
Spend time talking to your child.

Organiser of PISA in Hong Kong:
Hong Kong Centre for International Student Assessment (Programme commissioned by Education Bureau)

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For more information about OECD/PISA, please visit the website: http://www.pisa.oecd.org

"PISA inspires national efforts to help students to learn better, teachers to teach better, and school systems to work better."

"Learning strategies, meta-cognition and intrinsic motivation are equally important for children's lifelong learning."