

ABSTRACT

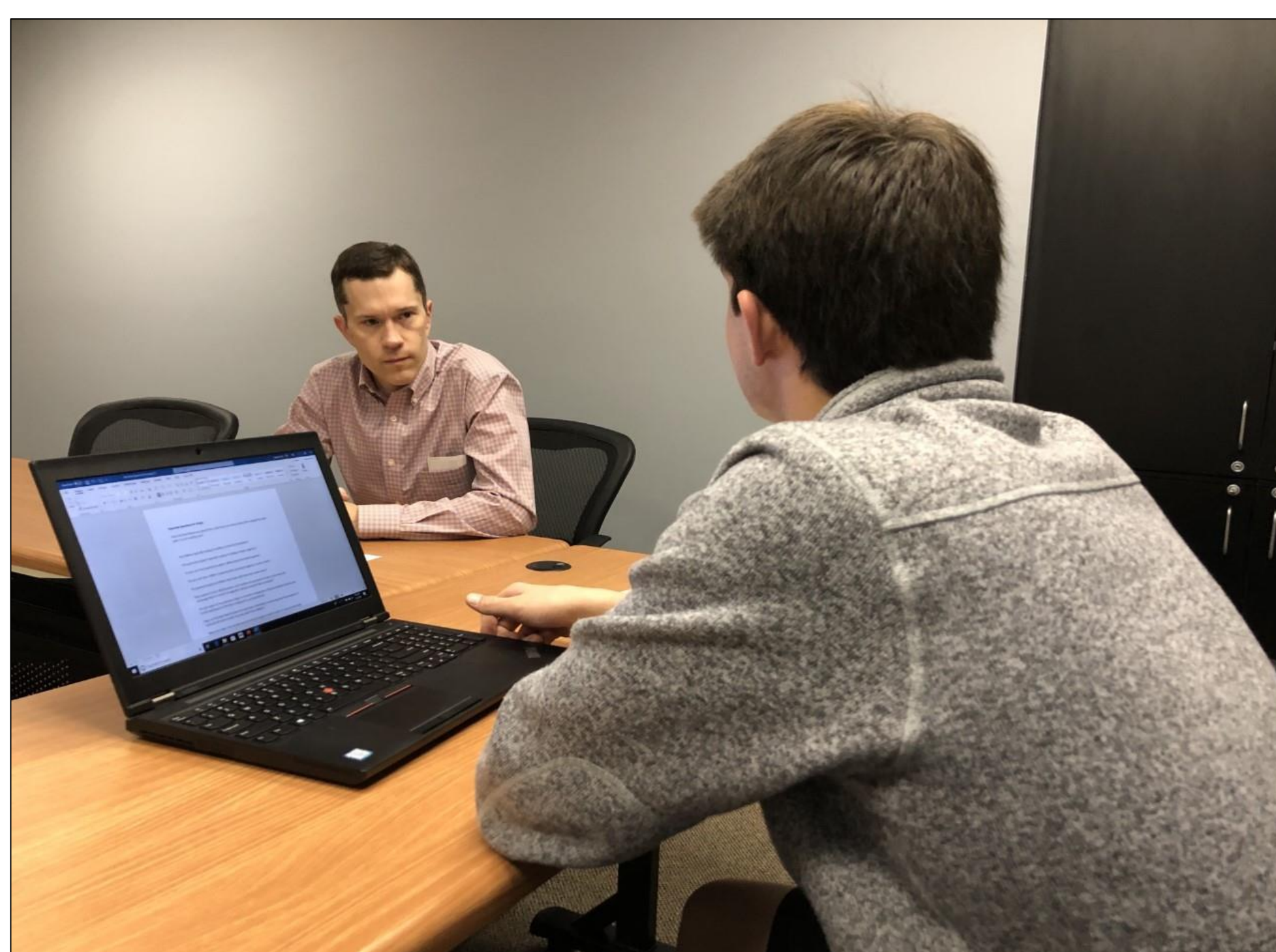
- READ ENC, a local literacy coalition in Pitt County, has partnered with several local pediatric offices to place READ ENC Book Nooks filled with children's picture books in their waiting spaces.
- The goal of this study was to determine how effective this book access was at creating shared reading time between parent and child.
- Observations of interactions with the Book Nooks and interviews with site employees revealed that the Book Nooks created more reading time opportunities but are limited by technology and forms that occupy waiting time.

INTRODUCTION

- The practice of shared reading between parent(s) and children contributes significantly to children's literacy development and readiness for school learning.
- The waiting times prior to pediatric medical visits offer a unique opportunity for parents to engage in shared reading with their children.
- Employees at five Greenville pediatric offices were interviewed, and seven total two-hour observations of Book Nook use took place at three of these locations.

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1.) Since the Book Nook was placed here, what have you noticed about the reading that takes place in your waiting area?
- 2.) Are parents/caregivers typically reading or looking at books together?
- 3.) How can this Book Nook location be used more effectively to encourage parents/caregivers to read and talk about books every day with their children?
- 4.) What else (other than books) would parents/caregivers need in order to read and talk about books every day with their children?
- 5.) Anything else you would like to share?



Interview with Pirate Pediatrics Employee

RESULTS

Interview Trends:

100% of employees stated that the book nooks being present have increased overall interest with and activity involving reading in their waiting space.

100% of employees stated that school-aged children typically read by themselves and toddlers typically read with a parent/caregiver/sibling.

100% of employees with a TV in their waiting room referenced it being a distraction to reading.

80% of employees referenced technology (rather being used by parent, child, or both) as an interference to reading.

Observation Trends:

100% of shared reading that was observed occurred with a child that was approximately 7 years of age or younger.

21% of visits observed involved some shared reading between parent and child.

98% of observed visits involved family filling out forms, using technology, or a combination of both.

Only **1 out of 47** observed visits involved parent-child shared reading with no distractions from technology and/or forms.



Visiting a Book Nook Location



Child in Process of Taking Book to Parent

DISCUSSION

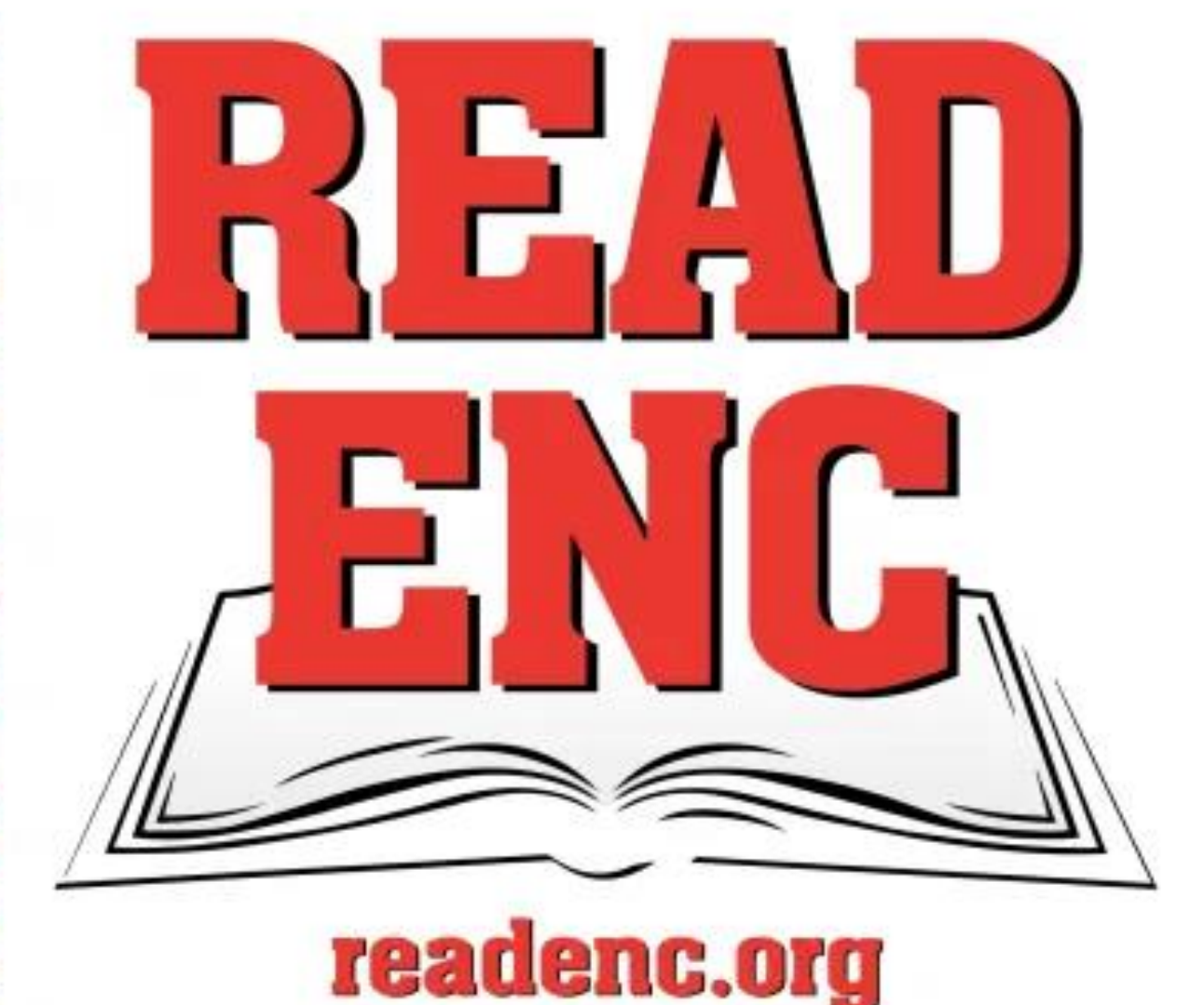
- Interviews and observations highlighted that children were typically the ones initiating the reading that occurred while waiting.
- Both interviews and observations indicated that children ages 0-5 were interested in reading but ultimately depended upon parent/caregiver response if any shared reading would occur.
- Interviews and observations expressed that technology and well-child forms provided significant barriers to limiting shared reading time.

CONCLUSIONS

- The Book Nooks provided by READ ENC in local pediatric medical offices provide more opportunities for parent-child reading interaction to occur.
- The availability of books in these Book Nooks are appealing to children and differences in age lead to differences in what types of interactions occur.
- Especially with younger children (ages 0-5), the reading experience is dependent upon the actions of the parent in either reading with/to them or not acknowledging the reading request.
- Increased awareness and education with parents about the reasons for Book Nook placement has the potential to increase reading while waiting.
- Limitations to technology and forms while waiting could be implemented to encourage more reading.
- Encouragement from site employees for families to interact with the Book Nook may encourage more family reading experiences.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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READ ENC Logo