

Screen Time

A television in your child's room may result in lower test scores

If your child's standardized tests scores are not what you'd hoped, the answer may lie in her bedroom.

One study of nearly 400 third graders found that kids with bedroom TVs got lower scores in math, reading and language arts. They scored seven points lower in reading. They scored eight points lower in math and language arts.

During the course of the study, some children added TVs to their bedrooms. They scored worst of all. Those who had TV sets taken out of their rooms saw their scores go up.

To Thomas Robinson, one of the authors of the study, the results are clear. "Educators and parents are looking for ways to improve children's standardized test scores. This study suggests that something as logical and straightforward as taking TV sets out of kids' bedrooms, or not putting them there in the first place, may be a solution."

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