

## **ABSTRACT**

### **An Exploration Into the Reading Behaviours of Boys and Girls During SSR in a Rural Government Primary [sic]**

*Jennifer Lynch Farrell*

This mixed method case study explored and compared the reading behaviours of 20 Standard 4 boys and girls during Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) in a primary school in Trinidad and Tobago. Data were collected through interviews, observations, and the administration of a questionnaire. It was found that five teachers measured students' determination in the programme by regularity, punctuality, interest, motivation, and engagement. The majority of girls displayed these factors, while 50% of the boys were regular and punctual but did not display the same enthusiasm to read as the girls. Activities that required them to sit still constrained the movement of the boys. However, there was no indication that this hindered the development of the required skills.

**Keywords:** Reading habits; Rural schools; Primary school students; Student attitudes; Silent reading; Trinidad and Tobago