

The convenience of having knowledge at your fingertips, literally, is a liberating experience. Google provides us with information that could simply help you out at that very moment, thus improving our daily lives. On Google, we have lots of information readily available. This is not a bad thing, because you can always learn new things when browsing the internet.

News sites can simply write an article and post it to google, where over 3.5 billion people search the web per day. This lets readers instantly be alerted of current events and learn new things. Newspaper outlets have to print papers before they can present readers with new current events. If these papers are written and posted digitally, this will drastically decrease the time it takes to present readers with new events. The lack of delay of the news being released helps to keep the public educated and informed in a timely manner. In a dangerous predicament, such as a tornado or other traumatic circumstances, news sites broadcast warnings and include the time and place, and those time-sensitive details are important for people to know, or else it could be detrimental. For example in 2010, Tunisian citizens used the internet to alert people around the world that the government was depriving them of their rights. As written in Pew Research Center “Arab-American news outlets find they must compete with this abundance of online content in order to evolve alongside readers who are increasingly turning to the internet for information” (Brown, Guskin, and Mitchell). Google and other internet sources are helping us out by letting us see these events and doing so in a way that defies the boundary of time.

Nicholas Carr may say that although we read new information on the “Net”, it may not be retained and actually stick to a person's memory. Instead, we would get a temporary fix of something to answer a question or find out something new. That may be true, however, if you see something and it is brought back up, a person will remember that they discovered it from Google and the knowledge will be brought back to them in that moment. Therefore, the knowledge can be somewhat retained. Google may be making our brains lazy, but not stupid.

Having information readily available is not always a bad thing. The existence of the “Net” allows us to have everything we need at the touch of a button. We learn new things whenever we please. Research presents the argument that we may not be learning in the

traditional sense. In the passage Carr states, “[scholars from University College London] found that people using the sites exhibited “a form of skimming activity” (Carr 2). This may be fact, but is it making us “stupid?” Perhaps not. We skim these articles, but we are able to get the message that the author intended in a short amount of time like a Jet Ski gliding quickly along the surface of the water: a metaphor that Carr himself brings up in the article . Our knowledge may be no deeper than a puddle but it is as wide as the Pacific Ocean.