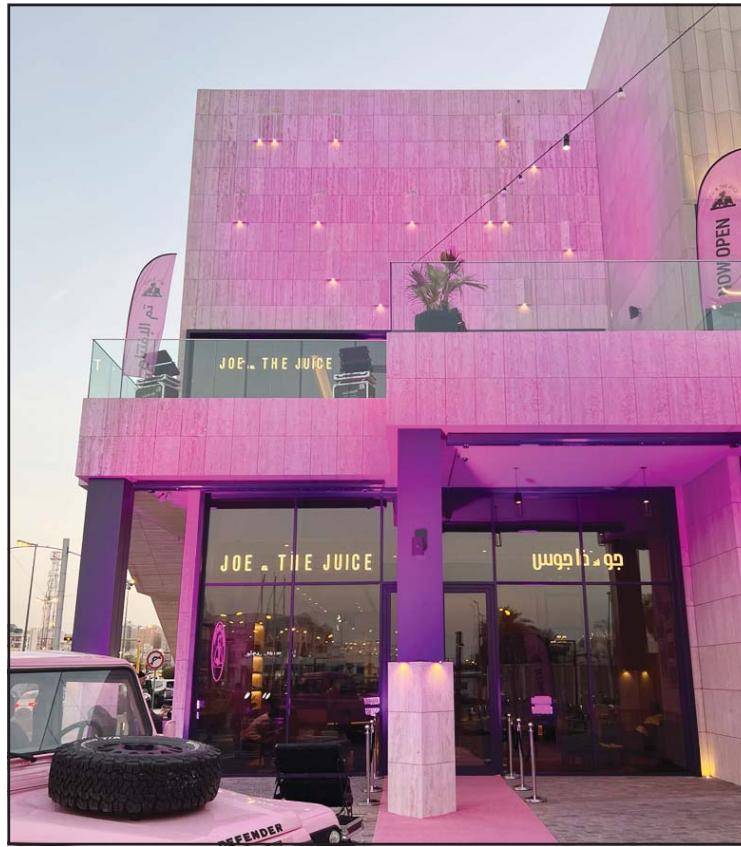


# What's On



Joe &amp; The Juice store in Al Andalus.



JOE &amp; THE JUICE - SAHARA

جدا جو - سافارا



Joe &amp; The Juice's first drive-thru service in Al Andalus Mall in Hawally.

Joe &amp; The Juice new store in Sahara Golf Resort, Subhan.

**New Al Andalus store is the largest and first to offer a drive-thru service globally**

## Joe & The Juice opens three new stores in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 8: Ali Abdulwahab Al Mutawa Light Food, a subsidiary of Ali Abdulwahab Al Mutawa Commercial Co. (AAW) has announced the opening of three additional Joe & The Juice stores in Kuwait, bringing the total to six. This expansion comes just six months after the world renowned Danish chain's debut in the country, highlighting the increasing demand for healthy dining options. The three new stores are in Al Andalus Mall in Hawally, The Warehouse Mall in South Subahiya, and Sahara Golf Resort in Subhan.

Joe & The Juice debuted in Kuwait in

March 2023 with the opening of its first branch at the Argania Complex in Shuwaikh. Since then, the company has been executing an expansion plan to bring the brand closer to all customers. This expansion is driven by the high demand for Joe & The Juice, reflecting both the diversity of the Kuwaiti market and the growing need for healthier and lighter food options.

All new Joe & The Juice stores feature an inviting interior design that seamlessly blends Danish aesthetics with a modern touch. The Al Andalus store is the largest Joe & The Juice store in Kuwait and

the first to offer a drive-thru service globally, ensuring convenience for all customers. With its spacious interiors, including a glass elevator, the store provides an inviting ground-floor outdoor seating area and an upper-balcony seating option.

Joe & The Juice locations include the Argania Complex store in Shuwaikh, the Argan Square store in Salmiya, The Walk store in Ardiya, Al Andalus store in Hawally, the Warehouse in South Subahiya, and Sahara Golf Resort store. All stores offer free WiFi, allowing customers to remain connected while enjoying their visit.

### The Conversation

#### Engaged parents and committed school curriculum can help

## Millions of US kids have low reading skills

By Shayne Piasta  
The Ohio State University

The Conversation is an independent and non-profit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.

Reading ability among US students remained slow in 2022, with 37% of fourth graders and 30% of eighth graders scoring below the basic proficiency levels for reading set by the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Although the COVID-19 school shutdowns are responsible for some of the learning loss, the numbers weren't particular good prior to the pandemic, either - reading scores for US students have been low for decades.

SciLine interviewed Dr. Shayne Piasta, a professor of reading and literacy at The Ohio State University and a faculty associate at the Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy. Piasta discussed the various methods of reading instruction and how to get kids to love it.

Below are some highlights from the discussion. Answers have been edited for brevity and clarity.

**Question:** What is meant by the 'science of reading'? And what are the misconceptions?

**Shayne Piasta:** The science of reading refers to the accumulated knowledge base we have from scientific research about the reading process, its components, how reading skills develop and how we can best support those who are learning to read.

One of the misconceptions I see is that the science of reading is equated with phonics instruction.

But the science of reading is a knowledge base, not a specific approach. Phonics instruction is a specific approach, whereby one is explicitly and intentionally teaching children all of those important links between letters and sounds, both at an individual letter level - like learning the alphabet - and at higher skill levels, such as learning about some complex spelling conventions that we have in the English language.

Although phonics instruction is a necessary component in learning to read, phonics instruction alone, without attending to other key reading

components, such as language, comprehension, and concept and background knowledge, is insufficient.

**Q:** What critical components are needed for a reading curriculum to be successful?

**Shayne Piasta:** First and foremost, I would expect a reading program to have a scope and sequence, meaning there is predetermined content of what's going to be covered. And then that it's in a particular order, often building from more simple skills or concepts to more complex ones.

This might apply to phonics instruction, where we're going from simple letter sound correspondences and building up to more complex associations between letters, spelling patterns and how words are pronounced.

Any successful reading program should have a scope and sequence. It should definitely have it for the phonics component, but it should have it for other components as well.

**Q:** What role does background knowledge play in learning to read?

**Shayne Piasta:** We're learning more and more about how critical concept knowledge and background knowledge are for successful reading.

To understand the meaning being conveyed by text, which is the ultimate goal, children use the information they already know to make sense of text. A famous example involves a study in which children read a written passage about baseball. Children who knew a lot about baseball best understood the passage, regardless of reading ability.

This highlights the role of concept and background knowledge as foundations for understanding text meaning, and thus, reading comprehension.

Any reading curriculum should have opportunities for children to build those skills - to learn about our world, to make connections with the world, to make connections across different sources and types of information. This is particularly important given the diversity of classrooms. Educators cannot assume that children share certain knowledge or backgrounds.

Teachers need to provide opportunities to discuss

and learn about concepts that children will read about. This includes topics like baseball as well as academic concepts like photosynthesis. And then they bring that conceptual and background knowledge with them when they're going to read a new piece about a certain topic so they can actually make sense of it.

Again, it's not phonics only. It's phonics and these opportunities to support knowledge building as well as language skills.

**Q:** Are any approaches especially effective for children from marginalized backgrounds?

**Shayne Piasta:** There are many evidence-based practices for building language for both children who speak English only and those who are English learners. This includes exposing children to more complex grammar during conversations and using routines to improve awareness of new vocabulary words.

The science of reading applies to all learners. Most practices that we would recommend are going to be helpful for students from a range of different backgrounds. That being said, it's important to be able to identify the strengths and the learning needs of individual children.

**Q:** How can parents support kids who are learning to read?

**Shayne Piasta:** For parents, I would recommend focusing on creating positive literacy environments at home. That is, having children see you reading, having children see you writing, and being clear about how literacy plays a role in your everyday life - not just having storybook time together or reading together, but doing activities like making grocery lists together.

Or maybe you could point out, "Hey, I'm reading these instructions so I can put together this piece of Ikea furniture." So you're really highlighting all of the important roles that literacy plays in daily life. In doing so, you can help children build positive connections with those reading opportunities so that it's fun, engaging and something they want to do. (AP)

Promote diversity, inclusion

## AUK appoints alumnus as vice president for student affairs



Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Farhan, AUK Vice President for Student Affairs.

significantly to the University's academic community. He served previously as the Department Chair of Arabic and Foreign Languages and as the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS).

AUK takes immense pride in its alumni, viewing them as integral members of its vibrant community. The University pays close attention to their achievements, celebrates their successes, and provides unwavering support in their professional journeys. The institution's unwavering commitment to its alumni goes well beyond graduation, recognizing them as an integral foundation of AUK's identity.

The American University of Kuwait (AUK) is an independent, private, equal opportunity, and coeducational liberal arts institution of higher education. The educational, cultural and administrative structure, methods and standards of AUK are based on the American model of higher learning. The language of instruction is English. More information on the American University of Kuwait can be found at [www.auk.edu.kw](http://www.auk.edu.kw)

## Students transform their drab dorm rooms into comfy living spaces

NEW YORK, Oct 8, (AP): From \$300 studded headboards and \$100 coffee table books to custom-made cabinets to disguise your mini-fridge, students are spending big bucks to decorate their dorm rooms, adding yet another layer to the soaring costs of college.

Some are even going so far as to hire interior designers to beautify their 12 feet by 20 feet of space.

Lesley Lachman, 18, planned her furnishings for her dorm room with her roommate immediately after deciding to attend the University of Mississippi back in May. The Rye, New York resident scoured websites like Pinterest and designed her room herself - with hues of pink, purple and green culled from a mix of pricey brands like Essentials with Eden as well as less expensive items from Ikea and Facebook Marketplace. Total cost for the design? About \$3,000, covered by her parents.

"There's so much work that had to be done because it felt

lackluster. It didn't feel homey," said Lachman, who posted a "before" and "after" video of her room on TikTok.

The "before" video shows stark yellow cinderblock walls, a mustard-colored built-in desk and an open closet. The "after" video shows a complete makeover, with lacey curtains to cover the closet, embroidered pillows and a cushy white headboard to dress up her bed, and customized framed art of hearts.

"I'm so in love with the room," Lachman said after her redesign. "I want to leave the door open and want everyone to stop by and admire it."

Overall, the back-to-college season is big business, with families expected to spend an average of about \$1,367 per person, up 14% from a year ago, according to an annual survey conducted this summer by the National Retail Federation and market researcher Prosper Insights & Analytics.

Spending on big-ticket items such as electronics and dorm furnishings as well as necessities like food accounted for more than half of the increase, NRF said.

Meanwhile, the total cost of college - including tuition, fees, room and board - almost doubled between 1992 and 2022, rising from an inflation-adjusted average of \$14,441 per year to \$26,903 across all types of universities, according to National Center for Education Statistics, the statistical branch of the Education Department. Dorm costs saw a similar spike over the same time span, rising from \$3,824 to \$7,097.

Sara Hunt, 19, a sophomore at New York University from Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, wanted her dorm room to look cozy but her budget was \$100. That's because she's footing 30% - or nearly \$30,000 a year - of NYU's annual college bill. Financial aid picks up the rest.

"I definitely try to work on being positive and not compar-

ing myself to other people because I'm so lucky for what I have. But it is really stressful," said Hunt, who worked more than 60 hours last year and took a job as a pastry chef this summer to help pay for her college expenses.

For her dorm décor, Hunt scoured Goodwill stores, Dollar Tree, T.J. Maxx and Five Below for deals on neon lights, wall paper decals and beddings. She also rummaged through bins of returned items from major retailers at a discount bazaar in her hometown.

Jamel Donnor, a professor at William & Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia, and a leading expert on inequity in education, said the big divide in dorm furnishings marks an "unspoken reality of the have and have nots." He noted that the stark differences in dorm decorating between those who have money and those who don't can make some students wonder if they should even be at their college.