

# Accessible eBooks EPUB, DAISY, and Adobe

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# WHAT IS EPUB AND WHO USES IT?

# What is EPUB?

- XML format for reflowable digital books and publications
- Offered by the International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF) as a collection of three open standards
  - Open Publication Structure – The Open eBook Publication Structure (OEB) is precursor
  - Open packaging Format
  - Open Container Format
- <http://www.idpf.org>

# What is EPUB?

- EPUB draws heavily on (X)HTML for semantics
- Support familiar elements
  - Headings: h1-h6
  - Ordered and unordered lists: ol, ul, li, dl, dd, dt
  - Tables : table, th, td, caption
  - Images: img
  - Blockquote
  - More...

# Who Uses EPUB?

- “Download Over a Million Public Domain Books from Google Books in the Open EPUB Format”
  - <http://booksearch.blogspot.com/2009/08/download-over-million-public-domain.html>
- “Sony Converts eBook Store to EPUB Format”
  - [http://news.sel.sony.com/en/press\\_room/consumer/computer\\_peripheral/e\\_book/release/41343.html](http://news.sel.sony.com/en/press_room/consumer/computer_peripheral/e_book/release/41343.html)
- Adobe has invested in EPUB for Adobe Content Server and Adobe Digital Editions.

# What About DAISY?

The DAISY Consortium has stepped forward to provide leadership and resources to assist in the maintenance for the EPUB standards.

*"It is essential that everybody in the eBook ecology work together to maintain and evolve the EPUB Standards"*

George Kerscher, Chair of the maintenance working group.

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2009/08/prweb2754274.htm>

# ADOBE AND EPUB

# EPUB Authoring





- **Adobe Buzzword**  
Free web-based document creation and collaboration with Acrobat.com
- EPUB export now built-in to Buzzword.

The screenshot shows the Adobe Buzzword web editor interface. The document title is "Butterfly\_-\_Research\_Paper". The main content area displays a document titled "The Butterfly." with the following text:

Lepidoptera is the technical name for a butterfly. They are an insects and like an other Lepidoptera, butterflies have a very strange life cycle it starts with a larval caterpillar stage, an inactive pupal stage, and a spectacular metamorphosis into a familiar and colorful winged adult form. Almost all butterflies operate during the day they as a result they often attract attention. This is due to diverse patterns on their brightly colored wings and their unpredictable and graceful flight have made watching them a popular hobby.

Encompassing the true butterflies (superfamily Papilionoidea), the skippers (Superfamily Hesperioidea) as well as the moth-butterflies (Superfamily Hedyloidea). Butterflies show polymorphism, aping and aposematism. These insects migrate sometimes over long distances. Others have developed symbiotic and parasitic relationships with other insects such as ants. Butterflies are economically significant as they are one of the major insects in pollination. Also, a number of them are trouble, because they damage crops and trees and the like.

**Notable Species:**

Family	Papilionidae	Pieridae	Nymphalidae	Lycaenidae
				

Two comment boxes are visible on the right side of the document:

- Comment 1: "We should link to more information about the Hedyloidea family." (Feng Chang, May 16, 2008, 4:30 PM)
- Comment 2: "Include a number to illustrate." (Tatiana Mejia, May 16, 2008, 4:21 PM)

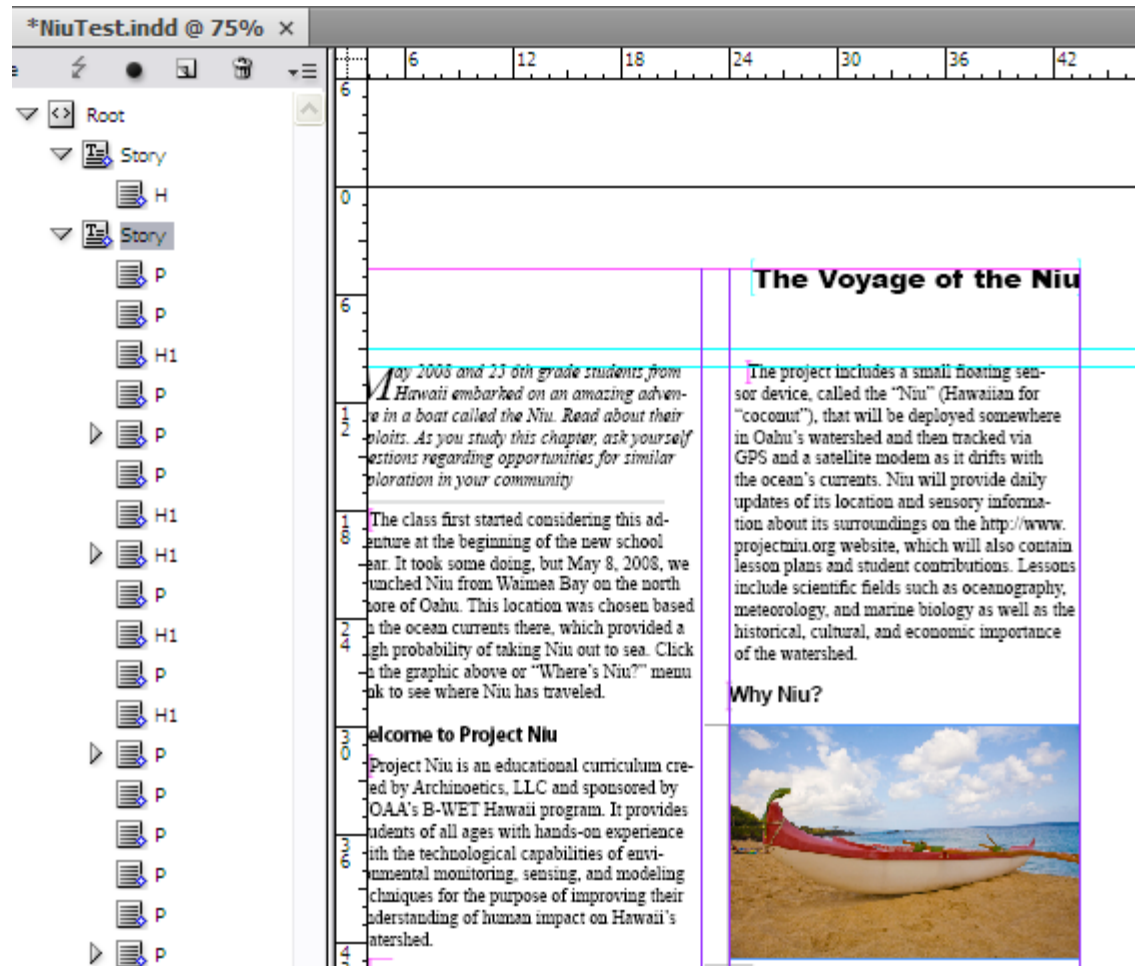
The bottom of the interface shows a collaboration bar with user avatars and names: Tatiana Mejia (Author), Feng Chang (Co-author), Mark Grill (Co-author), and Stephanie A. (Co-author).

The screenshot shows the "Export" dialog box for a document titled "Dreamweaver\_lab...". The "File type:" dropdown menu is open, showing the following options:

- EPUB (.epub) (highlighted)
- Adobe PDF (.pdf)
- Microsoft Word (.doc)
- Microsoft Word 2007 (.docx)
- Rich Text Format (.rtf)
- HTML - zipped (.zip)
- Plain Text (.txt)
- OpenDocument Format (.odt)

The "Export" checkbox is checked.

- **Adobe InDesign**  
Professional page layout tool
- Choice of XHTML or DAISY DTBook content schema
- Automatic TOC support



# Adobe eBook Platform

## Authoring



Adobe InDesign



### InDesign CS4 export

- Professional authoring tool with export to EPUB & PDF

## Content Protection



Adobe Content Server 4



### Server software for content protection

- Encrypt & manage rights for EPUB & PDF eBooks
- Transactions can be monetized

## Delivery



Adobe Digital Editions



PCs

- Free, consumer application to read & organize eBooks for PC & Mac



Adobe Reader Mobile SDK



eReaders & Smartphones

- PDF/EPUB support for 25+ dedicated eReader device models

# Adobe Digital Publishing Solutions

## BOOKS



## MAGAZINES



## NEWSPAPERS



# Key Partners

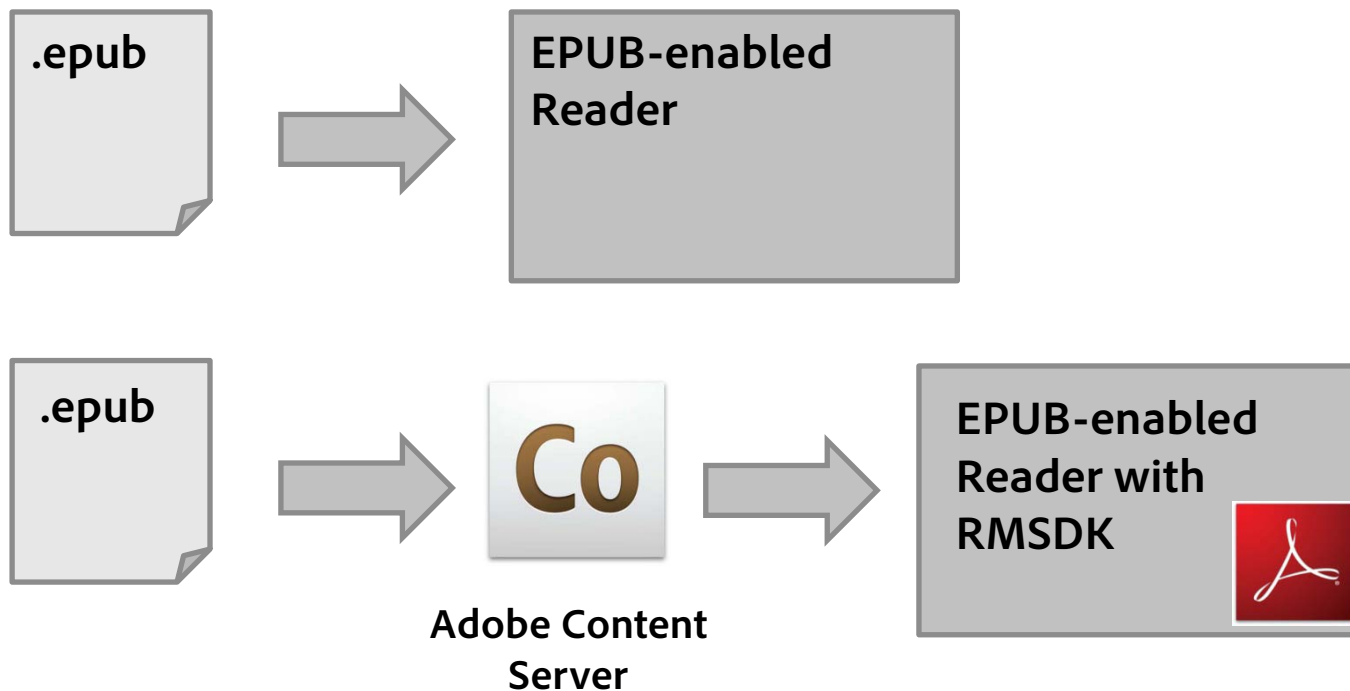
## Content Server 4



## Reader Mobile SDK



# Accessible Pathways for EPUB files



- Few tools that read EPUB offer accessibility
- No current readers implement the RMSDK and offer accessibility support.

# ADOBE DIGITAL EDITIONS

# Adobe Digital Editions 1.7.2

Adobe Digital Editions Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

READING 2 / 73

Find

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland Lewis Carroll

I. Down the Rabbit-Hole  
II. The Pool of Tears  
III. A Caucus-Race and a Long Tale  
IV. The Rabbit Sends in a Little Bill  
V. Advice from a Caterpillar  
VI. Pig and Pepper  
VII. A Mad Tea-Party  
VIII. The Queen's Croquet-Ground  
IX. The Mock Turtle's Story  
X. The Lobster Quadrille  
XI. Who Stole the Tarts?  
XII. Alice's Evidence

Options

## Chapter I


### Down the Rabbit-Hole

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Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, "and what is the use of a book," thought Alice "without pictures or conversation?"

So she was considering in her own mind (as well as she could, for the hot day made her feel very sleepy and stupid), whether the pleasure of making a daisy-chain would be worth the trouble of getting up and picking the daisies, when suddenly a White Rabbit with pink eyes ran close by her.

There was nothing so *very* remarkable in that; nor did Alice think it so *very* much out of the way to hear the Rabbit say to itself, "Oh dear! Oh dear! I shall be late!" (when she thought it over afterwards, it occurred to her that she



# Reflowing EPUB Text in Digital Editions

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## Is Digital Editions accessible?

- Digital Editions provides keyboard support
  - Digital Editions provides five levels of text resizing
  - Digital Editions is not accessible to screen-reader users
- 
- More accessible eBook reading tools are available for reading unprotected EPUB files.
  - Protected EPUB files need to be read by a tool that is accessible and that supports the Adobe RMSDK.

# How is Adobe Addressing eBook Accessibility Challenges?

Adobe is aware of issues for users with disabilities related to Adobe Content Server protection and access to e-books displayed within Adobe Digital Editions. Adobe is using a two-pronged approach to address these challenges:

- 1. Immediate:** Enabling non-Adobe players. Adobe is pursuing licensing deals with a variety of e-book players, including ones with robust support for accessibility, to enable players with proven accessibility support to use Adobe's Reader Mobile software development kit (SDK) to gain access to protected e-book content. It is impossible to provide a concrete timeline for the release of software with this support since it is dependent on the development cycles of other companies.
- 2. Long-term:** Enabling Digital Editions accessibility for assistive technologies. Adobe intends to provide support for accessibility in the next major release of Digital Editions. This is targeted for the end of the calendar year.

# Resources

- Adobe Digital Editions  
[adobe.com/products/digitaleditions/](http://adobe.com/products/digitaleditions/)
- Adobe Content Server  
[adobe.com/products/contentserver/](http://adobe.com/products/contentserver/)
- Adobe Accessibility Resource Center  
[adobe.com/accessibility](http://adobe.com/accessibility)
- Adobe Accessibility Blog  
[blogs.adobe.com/accessibility](http://blogs.adobe.com/accessibility)

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**ADOBE® ACCESSIBILITY**

