

LEARNING ALLY AUDIOBOOK SOLUTION

7 Ways the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution Benefits Struggling Readers in General Education Classrooms



Teachers have a lot to manage these days. Whether teaching virtually, in the classroom, or both, they worry about absenteeism, disrupted and unfinished learning with at-risk students, and accelerating learning for students in different tiers. Here are seven ways the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution can help educators support struggling readers in any classroom.

- 1. Gives struggling readers access to grade-level content** - The Learning Ally Audiobook Solution levels the playing field by allowing struggling readers to access grade-level content aligned to their cognitive level rather than their reading ability so they can develop essential vocabulary and background knowledge, accelerating their learning. With a library of 80,000+ audiobooks, the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution has all the books students in general education classrooms need and want to read.
- 2. Eliminates the stigma of leveled reading groups** - Students who struggle with decoding and phonemic awareness can benefit greatly from leveled readers. They may feel stigmatized, however, because they're not reading the same texts as their peers. While audiobooks can't replace practicing reading with decodable text, the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution's highlighted text feature helps model fluent reading. It also allows struggling readers to consume the same books as their peers, allowing them to participate in class discussions and gain confidence.
- 3. Teaches vocabulary and summarization skills** - To ensure students understand what they read, the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution includes student-centric features like embedded dictionaries and annotation capabilities. This allows students to easily look-up new words and practice summarizing what they have read without leaving the audiobook app. Teachers can even review their work from a simple dashboard and follow-up if they see any cause for concern.
- 4. Supplements direct instruction** - In many classrooms, there is only enough time to do close reading activities with short books or excerpts of long books. The Learning Ally Audiobook Solution's library of audiobook titles includes all the books in your district's curriculum. They can be shared with the whole class for close reading activities; then, struggling readers can finish books independently, saving valuable class time for discourse and critical thinking exercises. Learning Ally's library of over 80,000 human-read audiobooks are aligned with Bookworms, Wit and Wisdom, and other popular curriculums to augment direct instruction.

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- 5. Promotes independent reading** - Getting students to read outside of school can be a struggle. The Learning Ally Audiobook Solution can help. With a library of titles that includes popular fiction and series, classic literature, and more, students of any age are sure to find something that interests them. They can even download books directly to their device to read offline, providing anytime, anywhere access. It also includes tools to track how many pages a student has read as well as the amount of time spent reading, so teachers can track student progress and hold them accountable for time on task.

- 6. Gives teachers an easy-to-implement reading accommodation** - After a long day of teaching, it's no wonder that educators have little time or patience to wrestle with complicated, new technology tools. The Learning Ally Audiobook Solution is easy to set up and use for both teachers and students. Implementation is quick and easy, with students usually being able to start reading on the same day. Educators will love the web-based teacher portal, allowing them to view their students' progress from anywhere. They'll also appreciate that it is device-agnostic; their students can read on any school-issued or personal device, important especially when school-issued devices are sparse.

- 7. Provides differentiated instruction** - The benefits of differentiation are well documented, but many educators are stretched too thin to create new lesson plans for every student. The Learning Ally Audiobook Solution allows students to set their own reading pace and control the size, spacing and brightness of the font, customizing the experience to their learning needs. Built-in progress monitoring and the ability for educators to communicate directly with their students make providing differentiated instruction a breeze.

LEARNING ALLY is a leading nonprofit education solutions organization dedicated to equipping educators with proven solutions that help new and struggling learners reach their potential. Our range of literacy-focused offerings for students Pre-K to 12th grade and catalog of professional learning allow us to support more than 200,000 educators across the US. The Learning Ally Audiobook Solution is our cornerstone award-winning reading accommodation used in more than 18,500 schools to help students with reading deficits succeed. Composed of high quality, human-read audiobooks and a suite of teacher resources to monitor and support student progress, it is designed to turn struggling readers into engaged learners. For more information, visit www.LearningAlly.org.