

# Audiobook Strategies



The following eight strategies can be used to implement audiobooks in your classroom. Decide which ones will work best for you based on grade level and environment. For more information, watch the [classroom strategy videos](#).

STRATEGY	BEST GRADE LEVELS	BEST ENVIRONMENT/ SETTING	EDUCATIONAL GOAL/OUTCOME	SUPPORTS
Station Rotation/Literacy Stations	E M	GenEd Classroom	Comprehension	
Daily 5™	E	GenEd Classroom	Builds Higher Order Thinking Skills	
Independent Reading	E M H	GenEd Classroom SPED Classroom Library Study Hall Homeroom	Build background knowledge Exposure to vocabulary	
Reader's Workshop	E M H	GenEd Classroom ELA/Reading Class	Builds reading confidence	Universal Design for Learning
Guided Reading	E M	GenEd Classroom ELA/Reading Class SPED Classroom	Models oral reading fluency Models prosody	Differentiated Instruction
Whole-Class Instruction	E M H	GenEd Classroom SPED Classroom	Builds love of story/literature	
Book Clubs	E M	Before/After School Lunch	Access to grade level content/ curriculum	
Homework	E M H	Before/After School Home	Builds reading stamina	

E Elementary School   M Middle School   H High School

## 1 | [Station Rotation/Literacy Stations](#)

Consider your rotation schedule for this framework. It's recommended students rotate between 1-2 of the following stations per day:

- **Tech time** – works on skill building with a computer program.
- **Listening and learning** – collectively listens to a Learning Ally book.
- **Read and relax** – students that are eligible for Learning Ally read with a device while others read a print book.
- **Teacher time** – work on a particular lesson.
- **Got skills?** – work on an assignment to develop skills related to the lesson.

## 2 | [Daily 5](#)

The goal of Daily 5 is for students to work independently on meaningful reading while the teacher works with small groups to work on individual needs. Learning Ally is a great resource to bridge students to meaningful reading.

### SUGGESTED DAILY 5 ACTIVITIES

1. Read to self.
2. Work on writing.
3. Listen to reading – use Learning Ally audiobooks to build comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency.
4. Word work.
5. Read to someone.

## 3 | [Independent Reading](#)

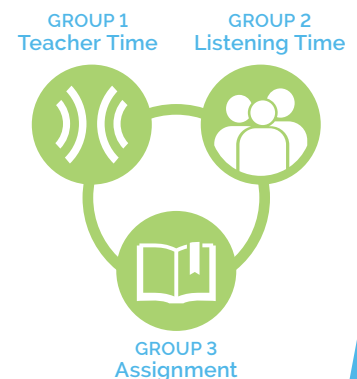
Independent reading has been proven to be an effective way to expose students to content and curriculum. In addition, making space and time within your day for 20 minutes of independent reading can expose students to a world of literature and stories. Independent reading with Learning Ally can:

- Support reading programs like Accelerated Reader.
- Allow students time to keep up with grade-level content and curriculum in all subjects.

## 4 | [Reader's Workshop](#)

The goal of the [Reader's Workshop](#) model is to provide a supportive environment that involves authentic and meaningful reading to help students focus on the individual skills that each student needs. Learning Ally can be an added benefit to differentiate instruction and create a universally designed learning environment for all students, especially struggling readers.

1. Start the class with about 10 minutes of whole class discussion.
2. Divide students into three groups – rotate every 10 minutes for 30 minutes.
  - **Teacher time** – teacher works with a small group.
  - **Listen to the story** – the entire group collectively listens to a book with Learning Ally.
  - **Assignment/skill work** – the group works together on an assignment.
3. Bring the entire class back together to wrap-up for 10 minutes.



## 5 | Guided Reading

Guided reading allows teachers an opportunity to observe students reading aloud at their instructional reading level and offer support in their reading skill development.

Human-read audiobooks play a crucial role within the guided reading framework. While a teacher is working on reading aloud with a particular group, other groups can be listening to a Learning Ally audiobook to hear how the reader uses expressions and tone to convey meaning. They can also be listening to reading fluency so they can learn to model that as well.



The Learning Ally reading app, LINK, can be an effective tool in this model because of the integrated features such as:

- **Rewind** – hear a passage again to understand meaning
- **Bookmarking and notetaking**
- **Speed control** – to speed up or slow down the reader

## 6 | Whole-Class Instruction

Use a smartboard to project the Learning Ally audiobook. Students can follow along with the VOICExtext, synched audio with highlighted text, on the screen or follow along in a physical book.

**All students are listening and learning at the same time.**

The students that are struggling readers are getting a huge benefit because they are accessing grade level content with the rest of the class. Audiobooks bridge the gap between students' decoding skills and their cognitive ability.

## 7 | Book Clubs

Book Clubs are widely used across the Learning Ally family in schools across the country. Follow these steps on [How to create a book club at your school](#).

## 8 | Homework

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADES K-2

Read for at least 20 minutes each night to support reading fluency and develop a love of stories and reading.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADES 3-5

Read for at least 20 minutes each night to support reading comprehension, exposure to vocabulary and fluency.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL

Keep up with the rigor of coursework.

Pre-read for upcoming material/class discussion.