

The Learning Ally Parent Journey Map

Discovering your child struggles with reading can feel overwhelming—but you're not alone. This roadmap simplifies the process: spot the signs, understand your options, and find the right support.

Wherever you are on this journey, Learning Ally is here to help.



1. Awareness

"Something might be different."

Spotting signs, understanding nuances, noticing co-occurring challenges.

- **What patterns am I noticing?** When my child struggles with reading, writing, and/or speech, what specific patterns emerge (e.g., misreading small sight words, struggling to rhyme, or avoiding reading aloud)?
- **Could other struggles be connected to something broader, not isolated?** What other struggles do I notice my child having?
- **How do I describe these challenges so teachers and professionals understand my concerns?**

Learn More: [Dyslexia: What to Look for and How to Help](#)



2. The Moment of Discovery

Processing the diagnosis, reframing mindset, and emotional grounding.

- What does the diagnosis mean—and what are my child's cognitive strengths?
- What's still unclear, and who can help me understand next steps and support options?
- How do I explain this to my child in age-appropriate terms—as a brain difference, not a reflection of intelligence?

Learn More: [Framing Dyslexia by Roberto Olivardia](#) (Spotlight on Dyslexia Conference, 2025)

3. Navigating School Systems

Understanding legal rights, formal accommodations, and evidence-based instruction.

- What is my child eligible for—evaluations, reading support, specialized instruction, plans?
- What are my rights and role as a parent in the evaluation and decision-making process?
- What are the timelines, consent requirements, and next steps if I have concerns?

Learn More: [Advocacy 101 | What Parents of Children with Dyslexia Need to Know to Drive Real Change](#)

4. Supporting Your Child at Home

Creating a safe environment, building habits, and leveraging tools.

- What tools can bridge the gap right now? What assistive technologies, like audiobooks [[Learning Ally](#)], ext-to-speech, speech-to-text—can keep my child engaged with grade-level content?
- What simple, consistent reading routines ([including Learning Ally's Reading Programs](#)) fit our family and make reading positive?
- How can I celebrate effort and growth, not just milestones?

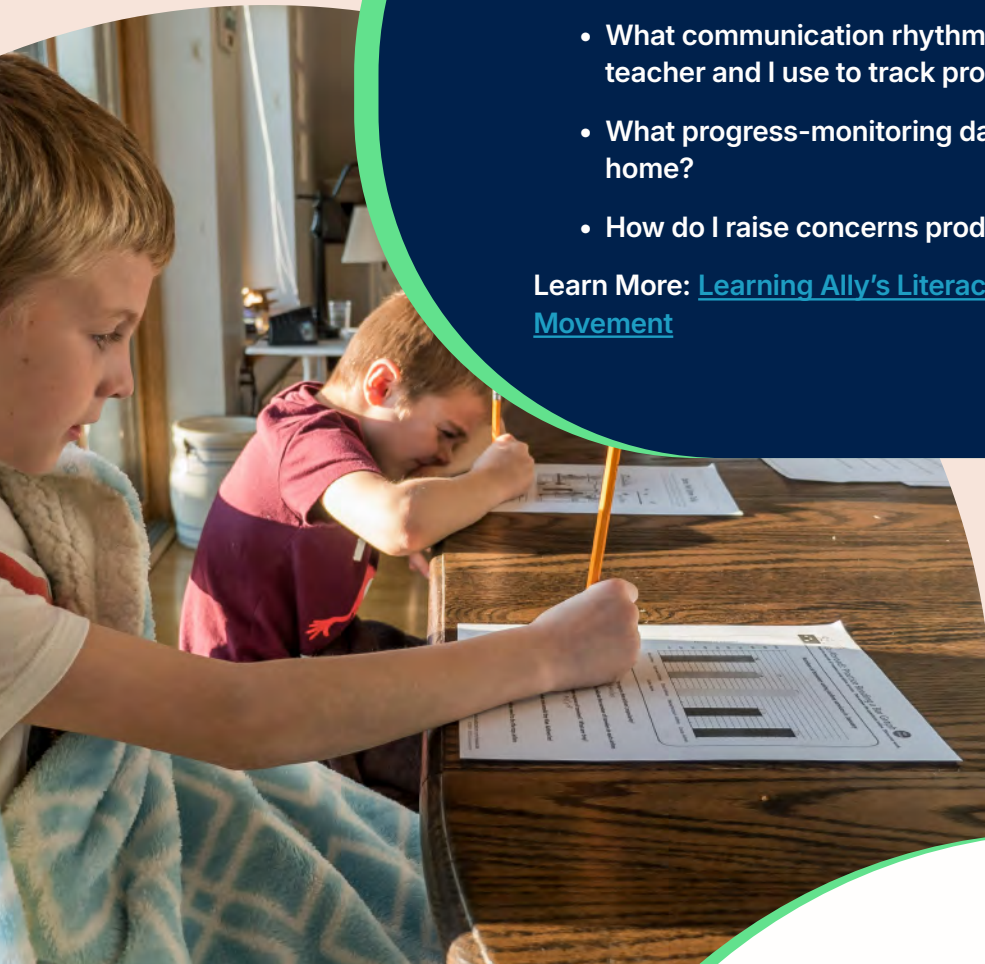
Learn More: [Tip Sheet](#) | [Building Habits and Routines at Home](#)

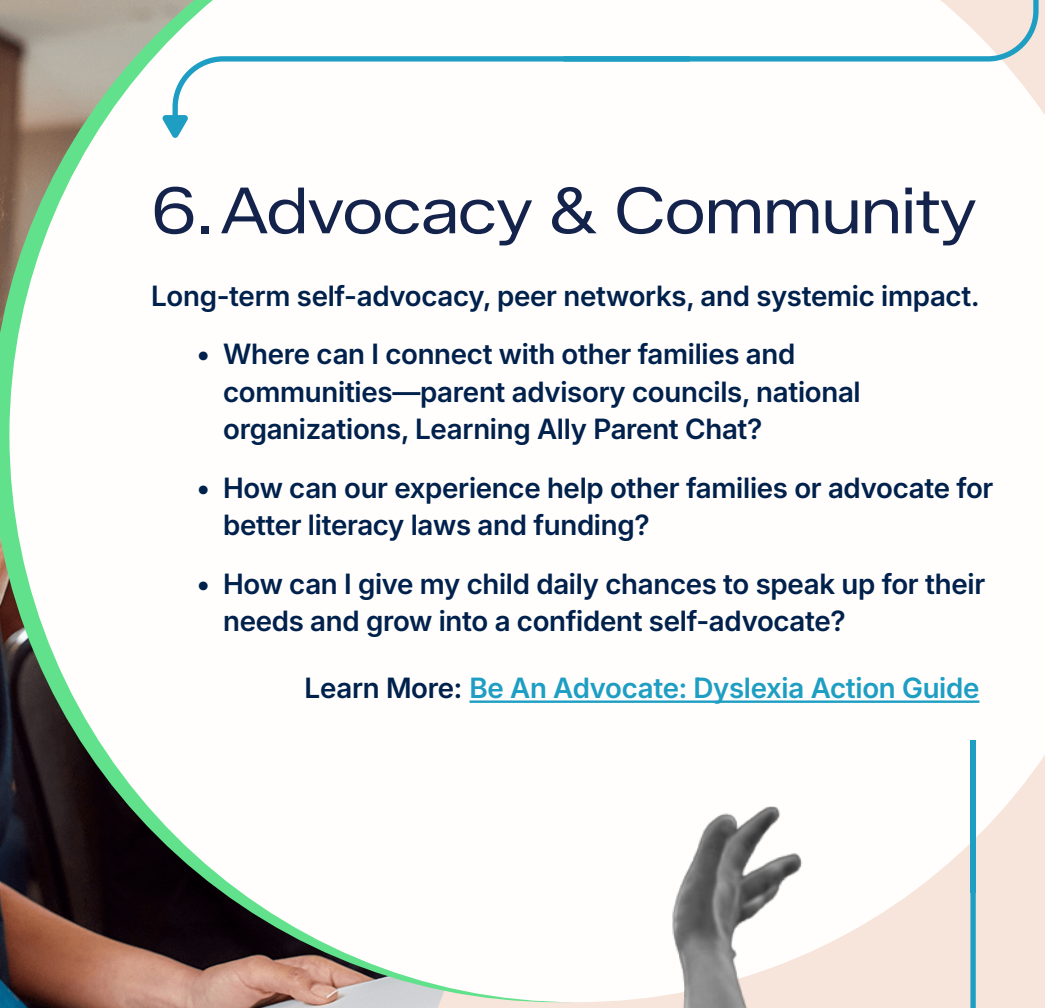
5. Home ↔ School Partnership

Communication, accountability, and collaborative advocacy.

- What communication rhythm—routine, frequency, format—will the teacher and I use to track progress?
- What progress-monitoring data should I ask for, and how will I use it at home?
- How do I raise concerns productively if an accommodation isn't working?

Learn More: [Learning Ally's Literacy Leadership](#) | [Engaging Parents in a Literacy Movement](#)





6. Advocacy & Community

Long-term self-advocacy, peer networks, and systemic impact.

- Where can I connect with other families and communities—parent advisory councils, national organizations, Learning Ally Parent Chat?
- How can our experience help other families or advocate for better literacy laws and funding?
- How can I give my child daily chances to speak up for their needs and grow into a confident self-advocate?

Learn More: [Be An Advocate: Dyslexia Action Guide](#)

Your Next Steps

Empowering your child is a journey of small, intentional steps. Every tool you introduce and question you ask brings them closer to their full potential.

You have the insight, the rights, and the dedication—and you don't have to do it alone. These resources will help you turn these insights into action.

Wherever your journey takes you next, we're here to support you. [Discover the benefits of Learning Ally membership.](#)

