

Adaptive Book Resources for Access to the World

Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading,
to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him.
—Maya Angelou

In the world of technology tools and resources, accessible books are opening doors for all individuals who struggle with reading. Fostering a love of reading through assistive technology can inspire students to excel and use their strengths to succeed in the world. These are just a few of the options available for accessible reading for individuals with dyslexia.

Auditorily Supported Books with Text Highlighting

The world has come far from 4-track audio recordings of books to today's multi-sensory books with coordinated text, highlighting of words, visual guides, high quality text-to-speech, and even human readers paired with text.

It couldn't have been a coincidence, which meant that the photos my grandfather had shown me—that he'd sworn were of children he'd known in this house—*had really come from this house*. But could that mean, despite the doubts I'd harbored even as an eight-year-old, that the pictures were genuine? What about the fantastic stories that went along with them? That any of them could be true—*literally* true—seemed unthinkable. And yet, standing there in dusty half-light in that dead house that seemed so alive with ghosts, I thought, *maybe*

Bookshare

With a library of over 700,000 books for individuals and growing fast, Bookshare.org is a service for individuals with “Print Disabilities” from which you can import books, textbooks, periodicals and newspapers straight from the website onto a mobile app. Bookshare’s services are free under a federally funded grant for any student with a qualifying reading disability. If the qualifying individual is currently a student the services are free; if not, it is \$50 annually with a one-time \$25 set-up fee.



. Dursley, of number four, Privet Drive
y that they were perfectly normal, t
They were the last people you'd expect
anything strange or mysterious, beca
old with such nonsense.

Bookshare books can be downloaded onto a Mac or Windows computer, an Android tablet, or an iPad and even streamed online like a Netflix video! Below are options for using Bookshare.

New Bookshare Streaming in Google Chrome and Safari Browser and ePub and Microsoft Word download options:

Now, after a student signs into the Bookshare.org site they can search for a book and click “Read Now.” Books are then loaded within the browser and can be read immediately. The voice and speed of reading can be adjusted as can some visual settings and the ability to navigate the books by page numbers and chapters.

Anywhere a student logs on, Bookshare streaming will remember their place in the text and stream

as long as they use Google Chrome or Safari. Teachers streaming the books online can use a Firefox add-on called [Capti Voice](#).

And now you can also download as an EPUB file or in Microsoft Word format onto any device or to specialty apps like **Voice Dream (Android or iOS)** or **built-in apps like iBooks** and to easy conversion options with **Calibre** for **Kindle** and more!

iPad and Android Apps to Use with Bookshare:

[Voice Dream](#) -- **iOS and Android** -- A text-to-speech reader that can directly download books from Bookshare.org, Dropbox, Gutenberg.org, a web browser, and more to allow easy text-to-speech access. This app has great study supports such as bookmarking and highlighting text and taking notes. There are beautiful quality reader voices to download and visual settings such as background colors, line guides, and page view settings.

[Dolphin EasyReader](#) -- **iOS, Android or Windows** -- An app that can download books from Bookshare and other formats in accessible formats with highlighting, text-to-speech and visual changes.

[Read2Go](#) -- **iOS** -- A text reader app from Bookshare.org. The Read2Go app will let you have the text highlighted while reading, change the color of the background, and have the text read out loud on request.

[Capti Narrator](#) -- **iOS and online** -- A free Bookshare App for reading books that will let you have the text highlighted while reading, change the color of the background, and have the text read out loud on request.

Learning Ally

[Learning Ally Audio](#) -- **App free with annual membership of \$119 -- Android and iOS** -- An app from [LearningAlly.org](#) (formerly Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic). As a member of Learning Ally, you can download specially adapted audio books directly to the app. They have recently added a feature that they are phasing in called VOICetext so that audio books can be read along with coordinated visual text and highlighting features. Currently there are over 7,000 books that allow this feature.



Kindle Immersion Reading

[Amazon.com](#) has an option called [Immersion Reading](#) that allows the audio and eBook to be synchronized and highlighted while reading. This is only available on the Kindle App for Android, the Kindle Fire HD, the Kindle Fire HDX, and the Kindle Fire HDX 8.9" and only when the reader purchases both the audiobook and Kindle book.

Other eBook Sources Compatible with Digital Text Readers

There are hundreds of options for text-to-speech compatible books, and these are just a few; not all of these have highlighting features.

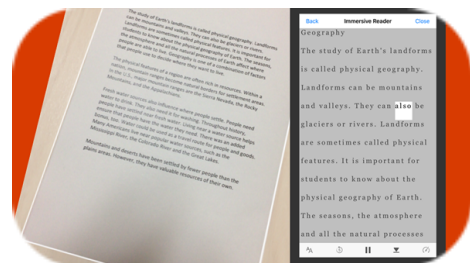
iBooks or Apple Books -- Books can be purchased or imported into the free reader included on iOS devices or Mac computers. Books labeled as “Read Aloud” or sometimes “Made for iBooks” have human voice and word-by-word highlighting. Other eBooks can be downloaded as well; it varies whether highlighting is available, but “Speak Selection” and “Voiceover” are both compatible.

Epic Books -- This is large library of children’s books, many with “**Read to Me**” features that have human reader audio with visual highlighting. These are popular children’s books that are free for teachers with subscriptions available for families.

OverDrive -- **Free with public library membership** -- **Android and iOS** -- This is an audiobook and eBook app connected to the public library system to download books directly to your mobile device from your public library account. For auditory support you must use VoiceOver or Talkback support; it is not currently compatible with Speak Selection or Highlighting features.

Gutenberg.org -- A free website for “Public Domain” or out-of-copyright books, and when opened in compatible readers such as Voice Dream the text can be read out loud.

Office Lens and Microsoft Office features -- **Free** -- **iPhone, iPad, Windows tablet and Android** -- A new app for scanning has arrived and it is free! Office Lens allows you to take pictures of worksheets, whiteboards, screens and more and instantly scan them to be read out loud. The pictures are very forgiving and then are opened in “**Immersive Reader**” mode to be read out loud.



In Microsoft 365 and some Office apps, have documents read out loud, and the text can be broken into syllables and parts of speech.

Snap and Read -- **Google extension (Mac or Windows) and iOS App** -- Snap and Read is a new reading support option that can highlight text and read it out loud, level/simplify vocabulary, translate text, capture text, follow template outlines and make citations.

