



Transforming Lives Through Literacy









"Access to Learning Ally raised my confidence and pushed me to read more. I am happier at home and have found reading to be such an enjoyable pastime. I would not have gone to college without this resource."

Eva R., Sarah Lawrence College Freshman Education major with dyslexia

Unlocking Potential, One Reader at a Time

Literacy opens doors to endless new worlds and opportunities. Yet, for millions of children, this world remains out of reach.





of educators feel "completely prepared" to teach reading²

students with reading deficits are more likely to drop out of high school²

Addressing Literacy Rates in Underserved Communities



Los Angeles Unified (LAUSD)

By removing the barriers to reading, 1,997 students supported by Coordinated Comprehensive Early Intervening Services (CCEIS), read 837,060 pages and uploaded 38,532 books to their bookshelves.



Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Partnership Revolutionized access to reading resources through a 5-year initiative that guarantees access to the CPS Skyline Curriculum through our Audiobook Solution for 660 schools and ~75,000 students (20% total population with 16.1% diverse learners and 70.7% economically disadvantaged).





New Jersey Statewide Grant

By integrating Excite Reading® in ~170 schools that currently use our Audiobook Solution, we transformed literacy for up to 9,895 Pre-K to 2nd grade students, while actively engaging families through targeted Family Engagement Nights to boost educational outcomes.

Arkansas and Mississippi State Legislatures

Governors Huckabee Sanders and Reeves, along with CEO Andrew Friedman and other non-profit leaders, participated in a panel discussion on prioritizing education and literacy to ensure it is best serving our greatest resource: our children.

Opening a World of Learning Through Listening®

Dear Supporters, Volunteers, and Friends,

As I reflect on this past year, I'm filled with immense gratitude for your incredible support that has propelled Learning Ally's mission forward, ensuring equitable access to literacy resources for students nationwide.

In FY24, Learning Ally emphasized the importance of Learning Through Listening. We empowered students to excel academically and keep up with their peers by providing authentic, diverse literature and immediate access to their curriculum content. We launched a free literacy video library and family toolkit, enriching learning experiences in classrooms and at home. Furthermore, our <u>Brain-Based Literacy Instruction and</u> <u>Dyslexia Awareness</u> training equipped educators with essential tools and strategies to better support the diverse needs of their students.

Yet, it is clear there's more work to be done, and it's your support and partnership that allow us to continue to innovate and adapt to the needs of our students and educators.

In the year ahead, Learning Ally plans to **develop next-generation platforms for our Audiobook Solution and professional learning initiatives**. We'll translate research into actionable strategies and harness the potential of AI technology to personalize learning experiences for students and educators. In addition, we will continue to work diligently with education officials to ensure all students have access to Learning Ally's solutions.

Together, we're opening doors to endless learning opportunities and lifelong success for students.



With heartfelt gratitude,

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Therese Llorente National Board Chair Learning Ally

Literacy Without Limits: Partnerships in Action

In partnership with the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, Learning Ally **delivered critical literacy support to students**, educators, families, and caregivers while enriching relationships with key school districts and administrators nationwide. In 2024, Learning Ally launched three new free resources to strengthen the connection between learning in school and at home.



Family Literacy Toolkit tips, activities, and articles to help parents and caregivers



Family Literacy Videos on-demand video series for parents and caregivers on how to integrate literacy into daily routines



Educator Video Library

powerful tool for educators to enhance the impact of their Tier 1 literacy instruction



"Literacy instruction isn't just found in the classroom. We were able to show our families all of the fun, memorable, and powerful ways they can incorporate reading and writing activities into their homes and in their everyday lives. The positive response we've received is a testament to the power of family-educator partnerships, and we're excited to watch our students grow as a result."

Michele Bryant, Director of Curriculum and Instruction for Norris Elementary School District



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Solutions Driving Outcomes

Award-Winning Pre-K-12 Solutions

For over 75 years, The Learning Ally Audiobook Solution® has provided millions of struggling readers with equitable access to grade level content, aligned to their school's curriculum on the best learning app, specifically designed for students who struggle with blindness or a learning difference such as dyslexia. Excite Reading® lays the foundation for comprehension skills from the start of literacy instruction (Pre-K to 2), its library of human-read e-books ultimately fostering a love for reading. Learning Ally solutions offer significant benefits at every grade level when implemented with fidelity, including:



Increased vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension



Greater self-confidence. motivation, and classroom engagement



Higher assessment and high-stakes test scores

> of our educators reported that the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution enables comprehension of grade-level reading.



Benjamin, 6th Grader, learns the word "Languish", while reading "I have a Dream" using the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution In-App Dictionary.



85% of our equicators reported to Learning Ally Audiobook Solution enables achievement of their of our educators reported that the students' independent reading goals.



Award-Winning Professional Learning for Educators

Research shows that educators who receive professional learning on a comprehensive and ongoing basis can increase their students' achievement levels by over 20%.





- Direct instruction combined with collaborative communities of practice elevate educators' instructional capacity centered on Brain-Based Literacy and informed by the Science of Reading.
- Dyslexia-focused training and conferences provide insights into students' learning differences, ways to identify needs in the classroom, and the strategies and systems that can effectively support these students.
- Our award-winning Educator Community provides a space for educators to connect and be celebrated.

"One of the best professional development opportunities I have had in a long time."

Debra Sahleen. K-5 Reading Specialist, Colton **Elementary School District**



Awards & Recognition

We are proud of our multi-award-winning solutions. The American Consortium for Equity in Education Excellence Awards recognized our solutions in the following ways:

- Best New Product of the Year for Brain-Based Literacy Instruction
- Best Author or Speaker Dr. Terrie Noland
- Best Early Childhood Education Solution for Excite Reading[®]



Success Stories



"Many of our students speak a second language at home, Excite Reading® gives them a rich library of text along with a native reader bringing the stories to life. Our students are eager to read and love the stories, and we know this is helping them with language and vocabulary acquisition."

Jimmy Alvarez, Superintendent, Belmar Elementary School District



"I found my probability theory class coursework to be very difficult to follow. However, I found the textbooks that I needed on Learning Ally. The narrator was clearly well-versed in the subject and could explain concepts much more thoroughly than any screen reader could ever dictate. Thank you!"

Bhavya S., Stanford University, Masters in Computer Science



"We need an ally! From your audiobook solution for struggling readers, online conferences such as Spotlight on Dyslexia and your Educator Community, I have felt supported and valued. Learning Ally is like finally having wind in our sails, and I've been sitting on this boat for a long time."

Paul Garcia, special education teacher for 30+ years, currently teaches in the Carteret School District

"I've observed how this program has transformed our classroom into a vibrant and dynamic learning environment. The students' excitement is palpable, and they now view reading as an enjoyable adventure rather than a chore."

Brenda Allen, Educator, Steam Academy, Harrisburg School District

Representation Matters

Learning Ally acknowledges the critical importance of delivering **equitable and diverse learning solutions that reflect the voices of our communities** and is proud to provide culturally diverse and authentically narrated literature producing more knowledgeable and worldly individuals. With the support of our volunteers, the Learning Ally Audiobook Production Team delivered 670 new diverse titles.



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Thank You to Our Volunteer Nation

Learning Ally volunteers dedicate their time and talent in a variety of ways to make Learning Through Listening® possible for students nationwide. Whether it's supporting research, audiobook creation, outreach, or engagement with schools, families, and states, our volunteers drive our mission forward every day.









"Recording books for kids brings me life! As I narrate, I imagine a student listening and I want to make the experience as fun as possible so that they fall in love with books. And with every book I narrate, a new world is opened up to me as well."

Barbara M., Volunteer Narrator, served for 5 years



"Through first-hand experience, I know the important role Learning Ally plays in a child's education. I hope I bring stories to life to create a love of reading. It's rewarding to make a difference in a child's life, and to be a part of the Learning Ally community."

Maryfran A., Volunteer Textbook Narrator, served for 8 years

Celebrating 100 Corporate Volunteer Events

This year, Learning Ally proudly reached a milestone with our 100th Corporate Volunteer Program Event! Since 2020, we have engaged over 3,775 volunteers from companies such as Deloitte, Comcast, and Ally, who have contributed more than 7,000 service hours through both virtual and in-person events.

Our Corporate Volunteer Program is making a significant difference by empowering students to read and learn independently, boosting their academic performance, building their self-confidence, and encouraging them to discover their true potential.

We invite you to be part of this impactful journey. Join our Corporate Volunteer Program to support young learners and contribute to a brighter future. Contact us to find out how your company can get involved and make a meaningful difference.



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Thank You to Our Supporters

We could not do this work without the support of our generous funders and supporters, who are committed to making literacy accessible for all students.

\$8,589,055 raised for the school year ending in 2024



Thank You!

Key Corporate and Foundation Partners



Ways to Get Involved

Make a one-time contribution

Become a monthly donor

Give through a donor-advised fund

Make a gift of stock

Give through your workplace

Honor friends, family, or loved ones with a gift in their name

Join our legacy society with an estate or bequest gift

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LEARNING ALLY is a leading nonprofit education organization dedicated to equipping educators with proven solutions that help struggling students reach their potential. Our range of literacy-focused offerings for students Pre-K to 12th grade and catalog of professional learning services are designed to support educators in literacy leadership and turn early and struggling readers into engaged learners. For more information, visit <u>www.LearningAlly.org</u>.