



Your Ultimate Field Guide to Increasing Reading Support

January 2026. You're back. Inbox overflowing. Budget frozen. IEP caseloads climbing. It's go time. What if this semester was different? Not because you added more to your plate, but because you finally had a clear path forward?

24,000 schools are already using this field guide to turn struggling readers into engaged learners. This isn't a guide to file away. It's a working tool designed for your next leadership meeting. **Print it. Mark it up. Use it to align your team.**

Four Mileposts to District-wide Reading Success:

 **EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES THAT IMPROVE OUTCOMES**

 **COMMUNITY CULTURE OF LITERACY**

 **EDUCATOR EMPOWERMENT FOR STUDENT SUCCESS**

 **EQUITABLE ACCESS FOR ALL LEARNERS**

Your 2-Minute System Snapshot

Check what's true right now:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> We screen for reading risk in Pre-K–2nd grade | <input type="checkbox"/> We intervene early, before years of failure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> We assess accuracy and fluency—because automaticity supports comprehension. | <input type="checkbox"/> General Ed and Special Ed collaborate on literacy instruction and intervention. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Students with reading deficits have audiobooks | <input type="checkbox"/> Literacy is led by a cross-functional team (not just ELA or Special Ed) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers are trained in structured literacy | <input type="checkbox"/> We track who's using accommodations and how often |

Score: _____ /8

6–8: You're building momentum. Scale what's working.

3–5: You've got pieces in place. Now connect the dots.

0–2: Select one milepost and start there.

Circle your biggest gap. That's your **starting line**.



MILEPOST 1: START WITH SCIENCE

Evidence-Based Practices That Improve Outcomes

For Special Ed Directors, Curriculum Leaders, Principals

The newly revised 2025 IDA Dyslexia Definition is clear: Dyslexia is persistent and a legally protected disability. This field guide brings those protections to life. With evidence-based practices, intervention becomes efficient and proactive—saving time, reducing escalations, and creating predictability for staff and students.

Quick Roadside Tuneup: Your Team Planning Checklist

- We screen early (Pre-K–2) for oral language and reading risk
- Our screeners measure fluency, not just accuracy
- Screening leads to targeted intervention and action, not just paperwork
- Teachers know structured literacy practices
- Students have long-term access tools (audiobooks, assistive tech)
- Our evaluations reflect fluency, accuracy, and language

Score: _____ /6

Your Next 30 Days

Pick ONE. Assign an owner. Set a date.

If you scored 0–2: **SCREEN EARLY** Grades: _____ Tool: _____ Date: _____ Owner: _____

If you scored 3–4: **TRAIN STAFF** Topic: _____ Format: _____ Date: _____ Owner: _____

If you scored 5–6: **SCALE ACCESS** Add audiobooks to: _____ IEPs by: _____ Track: _____ Owner: _____

FOR YOU

- SP** Special Ed Directors: Stop writing accommodations from scratch. Use templates that save 30 minutes per meeting.
- CL** Curriculum Leaders: Layer structured literacy onto Tier 1 without overhauling your core program.
- PR** Principals: Spot struggling readers in Pre-K before they hit 3rd grade failure.

 Start with science, but don't stop there—Learning Ally connects the dots. Our Audiobook Solution helps educators move from diagnosis to action, faster.

[Request a 15-minute demo >](#)





MILEPOST 2: RALLY YOUR COMMUNITY

Community Culture of Literacy

For Principals, Library Coordinators, Curriculum Directors

Literacy doesn't live in one department. When principals, Special Ed leaders, librarians, and tech directors all own the mission, students see reading as joyful, accessible, and worth the effort. *When you build a literacy culture, you make support visible—and sustainable.*

Your Next 30 Days

1. Assemble Your Literacy Equity Circle

Role: Principal/Admin | Name: _____ Role: Special Ed Leader | Name: _____
Role: Library | Name: _____ Role: Technology | Name: _____
Role: ELA/Curriculum | Name: _____
First meeting: _____ First goal: Review data Align priorities Plan event

2. Plan One Event Students Will Remember (pick one)

- Launch **Race to Read** (schoolwide audiobook challenge)
- Host the **Great Reading Games** (212,000 students participated last year)
- Share success stories from **Learning Ally Sound Strategies Community**
- Add audiobooks to library catalog and celebrate it

Date: _____ Owner: _____


3. Bring Families Into the Mission

- Host one literacy event this semester Share your literacy access goals at the open house
- Send home info about dyslexia and access tools

Date: _____ Owner: _____

FOR YOU

- PR** Principals: Build buy-in without burning out your staff.
- LC** Library Coordinators: Curate inclusive formats (audiobooks, diverse texts) that students actually want to read.
- CD** Curriculum Directors: Celebrate progress across programs, not just in one classroom.

 Literacy culture doesn't build itself—Learning Ally brings your community together. Our Audiobook Solution turns reading into a shared celebration, not a silent struggle.



[Request a 15-minute demo >](#)

MILEPOST 3: EQUIP YOUR EDUCATORS

Educator Empowerment for Student Success



For Curriculum Directors, Tech Leaders, Special Ed Coordinators

Teachers want to help struggling readers. They need tools that fit their workflow—not another login, another platform, another weekend spent planning. *When you empower educators, you make literacy instruction consistent—not heroic.*

Your Next 30 Days

1. Give Teachers One Tool They Can Use Monday

Pick one:

- Audiobooks for students with decoding challenges
- Structured literacy resources aligned with your curriculum
- Ready-to-use IEP/504 accommodation templates

Rollout: _____ Training: 15-min demo Self-paced PLC intro Owner

2. Make Literacy Part of the Routine

Use: PLCs Grade-level meetings Special Ed collab time Other: _____

To: Review data Share success stories Co-plan lessons with audiobooks

Starting: _____

3. Offer Training That Fits Real Schedules

Check what your team needs:

- Dyslexia Awareness (95% satisfaction, meets state requirements)
- Structured Literacy in Action (98% satisfaction, immediate application)
- Supporting Striving Readers at Home (one-hour virtual workshop for families)


Format: On-demand Facilitator-led Two-day intensive Timeline: _____

FOR YOU

SP Special Ed Coordinators: give teachers templates so they stop creating IEP language from scratch every time.

TD Tech Directors: Ensure access is simple, fast, and secure—audiobooks assigned in 3 clicks.

PD Leaders: Use training that 98% of educators recommend (and actually finish).

 **Empowered teachers change outcomes—Learning Ally makes it simple. With our Audiobook Solution, educators get fast wins, not more work**



[Request a 15-minute demo >](#)



MILEPOST 4: MAKE ACCESS THE STANDARD

Equitable Access for All Learners

For Special Ed Teachers, Special Ed Directors, Curriculum Leaders

Access to learning is a civil right. When students with dyslexia can listen to the same books their peers are reading, they don't just catch up...they contribute, participate, and choose harder books. *When you scale access, you make accommodations normal—not exceptional.*

Your Next 30 Days

1. Audit Your Accommodations

Pull your last 20 IEPs or 504 plans. Count:

Audiobooks or human-read text: _____ / 20 Extended time on reading assessments: _____ / 20

Assistive tech for writing/spelling: _____ / 20 Access to grade-level content (not modified): _____ / 20

Current: _____ % include audiobooks Goal: Increase to _____ % by _____ Owner: _____

2. Normalize Access Across Your District

Pick one: Provide districtwide audiobook access (not just IEP students) Train all teachers to assign audiobooks in under 5 minutes Add "access tools" as a standing IEP meeting agenda item Create standard accommodation language for your district

Date: _____ Owner: _____

3. Track What's Working

_____ % of students using audiobooks weekly: Target = _____ % Books read per student with dyslexia:

Target = _____ books/year Student engagement: Survey Usage data Focus group


First check-in: _____

FOR YOU

DL District Leaders: Show IDEA/ADA/Section 504 compliance proactively, not reactively.

SP Special Ed Directors: Analyze usage data in IEP meetings to prove what's working.

CL Curriculum Leaders: Maintain grade-level content access for all—no more watered-down texts.

 When you do this, it makes access measurable—not theoretical. You'll see which students are engaging and adjust in real time.

[Request a 15-minute demo >](#)





YOU'VE REACHED THE DESTINATION

Share This Roadmap and See it in Action

You've Reached the Destination. Now What?

You've mapped your gaps. Assigned owners. Set dates.
Now join 24,000 schools turning this roadmap into results!



Two Simple Actions. One Shift on the Path.

1. Share This Roadmap

Send this to your literacy team, Special Ed lead, curriculum director, library staff, and tech partner. When everyone aligns around these four mileposts, the path forward becomes clearer—and faster.

2. See It in Action

Learning Ally is the connective tissue that brings it all together. Our human-read audiobooks work with your curriculum, support your IEPs, and create real access for every learner.

Book a 15-minute demo of the Learning Ally Audiobook Solution

We'll show you:

- ✓ How audiobooks meet IEP and Section 504 requirements
- ✓ How teachers assign books in 3 clicks with no extra planning
- ✓ How to track student engagement and measure impact
- ✓ How to launch the Great Reading Games in your district

Because literacy isn't just a subject—it's a right.
And 2.6 million students are already claiming theirs.

[Request a 15-minute demo >](#)

