Our Top Three Assistive Technology Recommendations for Students with Dyslexia

Assistive Technology (AT) are tools that support students with dyslexia in their academics and personal communications. This is a big space with many options, so keep these three tips in mind when jumping into the world of AT:

- The child must be on board. They have to want to use these tools and understand how they will support communication both in and out of the classroom.

- The child must be part of the decision-making process on what tools will best help them.

- You want to make sure the AT that you choose will be easily accessible across all platforms and devices.

Tool One: Grammarly

- Free option: **https://app.grammarly.com**
- Easily used as you move between apps, social media, documents, text messages, and email
- Help users communicate effectively by providing suggestions to make writing clearer and more engaging
- Evaluates users writing for more nuanced editorial decisions like tone and sentence variety
- Teaches users why they are suggesting the corrections
- Adds an extra set of eyes on written text to improve readability

Tool two: Audiobooks

To learn more about how to incorporate audiobooks for students with dyslexia you can download a factsheet from the IDA:

https://dyslexiaida.org/balancing_ear_and_eye_reading/

Libby App - FREE

https://libbyapp.com/interview/welcome#doYouHaveACard

Simply download the app on your device or computer, link your local library card number and you can access your library's collection of audiobooks and eBook.

Learning Ally - $144 a year without discount, $99 with discount*
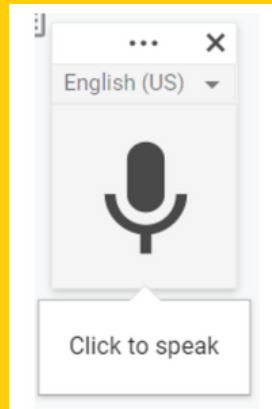
https://learningally.org/

Premier access to audiobooks for all ages, including picturebooks, novels, and text books. Easily accessible across all devices! Many other resources for students with dyslexia.

*Discount can only be applied if the account request is generated by a certifying professional. If interested, contact us before entering any information on the Learning Ally website and we will help you get started.

Tool Three: Speech to Text through Google Docs

Free and easy! Open a Google Doc. and select **Tools** - **Voice Typing** - and then **Click to Speak**. (First time users may need to grant access to the computer microphone).

For more detailed instructions click here:
https://support.google.com/docs/answer/4492226?hl=en

Remember: AT does NOT take the place of a solid instructional intervention plan for students with dyselxia or struggling readers/writers. **Contact us** for more information on structured literacy/dyslexia therapy and the use of AT to help your child become a lifelong reader and speller.

Multisensory Reading Center