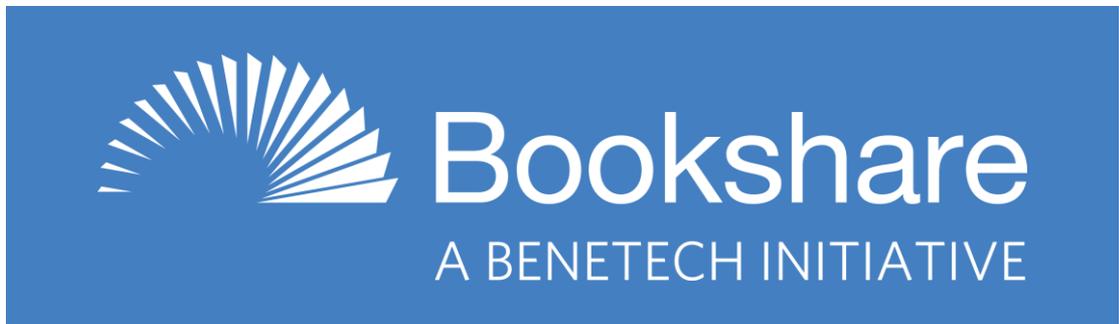




# School Closed? How to Support Students with Learning Differences Online with Bookshare

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# Today's Presenters



Christine Jones  
Associate Director, Global Literacy  
Benetech



Scott Richards, OT  
Assistive Technology Consultant  
Boston Public Schools, MA



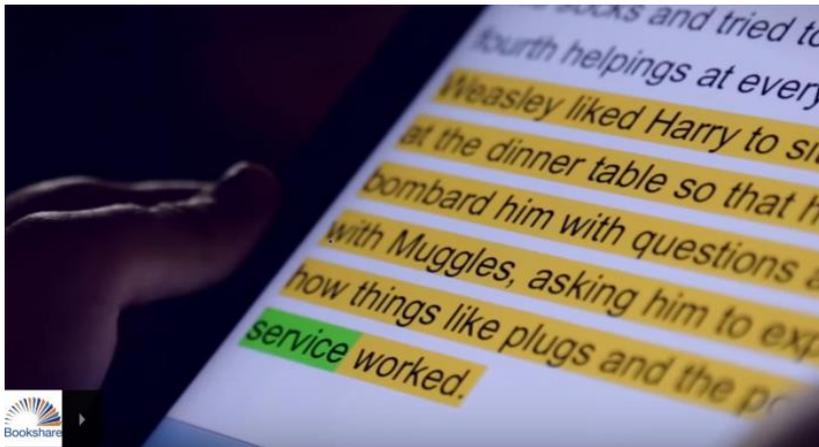
Amy Ratajczak, SLP  
Assistive Technology Professional  
Clarence Central School District, NY

# Agenda (Aspirational!)

- What is Bookshare, how it helps students, and who qualifies
- How schools sign up
- How educators add other teachers to their accounts
- How educators assign books
- How students access and read assigned books
- How parents can help their child upgrade to a full Individual Membership for independent access
- How parents sign up students (not through the school)
- Bookshare help resources
- Learn at Home resources, including books for students who don't qualify for Bookshare
- Watch for upcoming webinars!

# What is Bookshare?

An ebook library that makes reading easier. People with reading barriers such as dyslexia, blindness, and physical disabilities can read in ways that work for them:



- Listen to books read aloud
- Follow along with audio and highlighted text
- Read in large type
- Read in Braille

# Bookshare Offers...

- 825,000+ titles! All are available in multiple formats, including audio + highlighted text, including:
  - How-to books for “upskilling”
  - Best sellers (fiction and non-fiction)
  - Periodicals
  - Books for students (textbooks + assigned & leisure reads)
- FREE memberships for all qualified U.S. students of any age (funded by U.S. Dept of Education)
  - Qualified adults pay \$50/year for unlimited access
- Customized reading on nearly any device

# Many Reading Options!

- Chromebooks/Computers
  - Bookshare Web Reader – FREE
    - Enhance with TextHelp's Read&Write for Google or Don Johnston's Snap&Read Chrome extensions
  - Capti Voice – FREE/premium paid
  - Microsoft Word – [download books in Word format](#)
- iPad and iPhone
  - Dolphin Easy Reader – FREE (also available for Android)
  - Capti Voice – FREE/premium paid
  - Voice Dream Reader - \$14.99 (also available for Android)

# Account Types

- Organizational
  - Teachers (“Sponsors”) add students (“members”) and assign books
  - Students log in, find books, read (can only open books shared with them by their teachers)
- Individual
  - Student + parent (if student is under 18) sign up, submit signed Proof of Disability form
    - If student already has school acct, no POD needed
  - Student logs in, searches for books, reads

# Who Qualifies?

- Under [recently revised copyright law](#), an “eligible person”:



Smiling young boy  
with arms raised in celebration

- “is **blind**,” OR
- “has a **visual impairment or perceptual or reading disability**” rendering them unable to read printed works “to substantially the same degree as a person without an impairment or disability,” OR
- “is otherwise unable, through **physical disability**, to hold or manipulate a book or to focus or move the eyes to the extent that would be normally acceptable for reading,”

- “As determined by a competent authority possessing experience in making such determinations.”
- Learning Ally membership is also a basis of qualification

# Getting Started is Easy!

## Teachers:

- Create org acct/log in
- Add qualified student(s)
- Assign book(s)
  - Assign one book at a timeAnd/or
  - Assign collections of books via ready-made or custom Reading Lists

## Students/Parents:

- Sign up/log in
- See Assigned Books and/or Reading Lists
- Search for books (Individual Mbrs only)
- Select book
- Read!

# Demonstrations

- [How parents/students sign up for an Individual Membership](#)
- [How educators sign up for an organizational acct](#)
- [How educators add a student to their organizational acct](#)
- [How educators assign one book to their student](#)
- [How educators subscribe to a Bookshare Reading List and share it with your students](#)
- [How educators create a Reading List and share it with students](#)
- [How students will log in to school accounts, find their assigned books and Reading Lists, and open a book in Bookshare Web Reader](#)
- [How students can find their books and read in Dolphin Easy Reader on iOS or Android devices](#)

# Next Steps for Schools

- Create an organizational account (if needed)
- Add your qualified students
- Assign books to students
  - One book at a time (using “Assign” feature)
  - Create/subscribe to and share Reading Lists
- Show students how to log in and read!
- Show parents how to help students get individual memberships for more independent reading

# Next Steps for Parents

- Ask the school to add your student to an organizational account
  - Then you can [help your student upgrade to a full individual membership](#) for independent access

OR

- Sign up your child for an Individual Membership (if not going through school)
- Submit Proof of Disability
- Students log in, find books, and read!

# Get Help and Support

- Take advantage of online training and resources:
  - [Educators Get Started Guide](#)
  - [Help Center: get answers to common questions](#)
  - [Learning Center: videos and how-to guides](#)
- Ask the [Bookshare user community](#)
- Get live help via phone (1-650-352-0198) or [email](#), M-F, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. PT
- Connect with Bookshare on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, YouTube

# Questions?

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