Learn it Now Tutorial: Help Students Read Independently with Bookshare Web Reader

This Tutorial will demonstrate how teachers on organizational accounts can help students read independently using Bookshare Web Reader.

With Bookshare Web Reader, teachers assign books on shared reading lists, and students log in anywhere they have internet access to read books independently. They do not need to install reading software or download books.

Bookshare Web Reader lets students read books directly from a compatible internet browser by simply selecting “read now’ on any assigned book. They can listen to words read aloud with text-to-speech, follow along with word highlighting, and enlarge font sizes.

Note that Bookshare Web Reader is optimized for Google Chrome versions 33 and higher and Safari 6.1 and higher. It can also be used on Internet Explorer and Firefox, but students will need a screen reader to provide text-to-speech. These browsers do not support word highlighting.

To start, go to www.bookshare.org and log in to your account. Select the “My Bookshare” link, then select the “Members” link.

Next, create the students login by selecting the last name of a member with an organizational membership and create a username and password. If a student already has both an organizational and individual membership, designated as “Org+Individual”, you do not need to create a login for them as they already have individual access.

The username can be an email address, nickname, student’s name, ID number, or pseudonym. After you have entered the desired user name and password, select “Save” and you can repeat this step for other members.

We recommend that you note your students’ login information as you will not be able to see their login information again. Bookshare provides a helpful form for recording student information in the Bookshare Academy under “Brochures and How to Guides.” If you forget or misplace a student’s password, you can always reset it.

Next, select books from the collection and add them to a Reading List shared with your students. To learn more about reading lists, please refer to the Learn it Now Tutorial titled “How to use Bookshare’s Reading Lists.”

After you have added books to your reading lists, log out of your Bookshare account. Then have your student log in with the new username and password.

Your student will be taken to their own “My Bookshare” page, where they can access assigned books on shared reading lists, as well as previously accessed books in their history. To read, students simply select “Read Now” next to any book in their shared reading list or book history.

To learn more about other Bookshare topics, visit the Bookshare website, the Bookshare channel on YouTube, Bookshare on Facebook, and Bookshare on Pinterest.