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**Accessible Digital Text**

Students can be provided accessible digital text if they qualify as having a print disability. A student with a print disability is one who cannot access text in a traditional manner due to a learning (reading) disability, a visual disability or a physical disability that prevents them from using a printed book. There are many organizations that provide accessible digital text.

**Learning Ally** is a non-profit volunteer organization operating nationwide in the United States. It produces and maintains a library of educational accessible audiobooks for people who cannot effectively read standard print because of visual impairment, reading disability, or certain physical disabilities.

Learning Ally also offers a robust digital audiobook library that includes the world’s largest collection of audio textbooks. The library includes a broad variety of specialty and academic subjects, from kindergarten through post-graduate and professional.

Textbook and literature titles are digitally recorded by human narrators and produced in downloadable audio files in a specialized format.

LearningAlly.org

**Bookshare** is an organization that provides accessible text to students with print disabilities. Currently, this is provided free of charge through a grant. A student with a print disability is one who is unable to access text in a traditional manner due to a reading disability, a visual disability or a physical disability that prevents them from being able to turn a page in a book

Bookshare is available to students who qualify and who have an IEP or a 504 Plan. However, only students with an IEP qualify to have Bookshare access *to textbooks*. Textbooks are provided through *NIMAC* (National Instructional Materials Access Center.) NIMAC was created by IDEA 2004 and is a federally funded, searchable online file repository of K-12 print textbooks.

Bookshare.org

There are many additional organizations that provide accessible digital text. Three of the most often used are:

Gutenberg.org

Mel.org

Troypl.org

***If you think your child may need to access digital text, contact your child’s teacher or special education provider.***