

Bookshare Learning Ally Free Web Tools

Who comes out on top?





The Contenders





Bookshare

A service that provides books for free to students with a documented print disability via DAISY, BRF, or MP3 files.

Learning Ally™

TOGETHER IT'S POSSIBLE

Previously called Recordings for the Blind and based out of the New York Public Library, this service provides audio recordings of over 80,000 titles.

Free Online Resources

This is a small sample of resources that are available online that offer free resources for teachers, students, and their families. Each resource has its own requirements and process, but all are free.



Round 1: Book Selection



- Over 400,000 books available
 - Textbooks
 - Novels
 - Pre-K through grade 12 (and beyond)
- Multiple ISBNs available for many titles
- New titles added every day
- Requests can be submitted



- Over 80,000 books available, most books human narrated
 - Textbooks
 - Novels
 - Grades pre-K through 12 (and beyond)
- Multiple ISBNs available for more popular titles
- New titles every day



- Using **Overdrive**, an ebook service through the library, patrons can check out thousands of titles, both audio and non-audio books.
- No textbooks.
- Must have library card.



- Thousands of ebooks available, fiction and non-fiction titles.
- No textbooks



- Hundreds of nonfiction texts, and only nonfiction
- Narration available
- No textbooks



- 53,000 ebooks available for free
- Read books online, epub, kindle file onto Dropbox, Drive, and OneDrive
- No textbooks



- 33 books available, all picturebooks
- Human narrated, some with signing
- All books slightly animated

So who wins this round?

Bookshare

Round 2: Audio Options



Text-to-Speech (TTS) available in following platforms:

Bookshare Web Reader

Capti Narrator

GoRead

Voice Dream Reader

Read2Go

No human narration offered



Most books human narrated

Three options for audio books:

- 1) Purely audio read by either an expert in the field, or a professional voice actor.
- 2) Text paired with human narration
- 3) Text paired with synthesized narration

Free Online Resources



Information.
Ideas.
Excitement!



Public Library



KDL Information.
Kent District Library Ideas.
Excitement!



Audio books available

No TTS options for non-audio books

Can change font size again—and he was quite certain it wouldn't;

careful near heavy doors since the accident
medication.

The prohibiti

thought, would not be a real

dreamed so rarely that the dr

He had never, within his memory,
tempted to lie. Asher did not lie. L
not lie. His parents did not lie. No
Unless . . .

Project Gutenberg



No audiobooks available → Sponsors LibriVox

Can use HTML version of a book paired with SpeakIt

Similar limitations as Overdrive

First Book



No audio eBooks available

All eBooks only accessible through OpenBook App,
which is free

None of the books are accessible, but thousands of popular titles
are available.

Unite for Literacy



All non-fiction texts

All texts can be read in either English or Spanish

User friendly audio options can be turned on or left off

Storyline Online



All books narrated by a celebrity

Only 33 picture books available

Text not highlighted while reading

Who wins this round?

Learning Ally

Round 3: Membership Cost



FREE!

(To those who qualify)



Memberships range in price

Single memberships begin at \$135.00, but become cheaper the more licenses purchased

Free Online Resources



FREE!



Who wins this round?

Bookshare

AND

Web Resources

Round 4: Access



Read Outloud Program

Read2Go iOS

Voice Dream Reader iOS and Android App

GoRead Android App

Bookshare Web Reader via Google Chrome

Capti Narrator (Windows and all iOS devices)

HIMS Blaze ET (stand alone device)

Braille Sense (stand alone device)



Learning Ally “Link”



Learning Ally App





Using Overdrive, an e-book service through the library, patrons can check out “epub” files, and Kindle versions of books. Overdrive can be used on a smartphone, computer, or tablet.



Access eBooks via OpenBook App only



Only available via website.



Similar to Overdrive, access books through Project Gutenberg’s website, and download files. Files can be played on Overdrive player.



Only available via website.

Who wins this round?

Bookshare

“If the only tool you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail.”

- Abraham Maslow



