

Improving How The Brain Learns to Read

Nothing is more terrifying for some students than being asked to read aloud in class. Yet reading aloud, with guidance from a teacher or other listener, is one of the best ways for students of all ages and abilities to improve their reading. Reading Assistant software combines advanced speech recognition technology with scientifically-based interventions to simulate the experience of reading aloud in front of a teacher. Reading Assistant acts as a patient, non-judgmental listener and provides much needed reading practice that benefits all students.

How Reading Assistant™ Works

Reading Assistant™ trains the brain to process information more efficiently, which improves reading fluency - the ability to read with sufficient ease and accuracy so that one can focus on the meaning of the text.

The Program:

- 1) Students work under the guidance of a *Speech Plus* professional.
- 2) Students select a story and listen to a model reading of the passage.
- 3) New vocabulary words are identified and reinforced.
- 4) Students read the passage aloud into a microphone.
- 5) Using state-of-the-art speech recognition technology, Reading Assistant™ "listens" to the student as he/she reads aloud.
- 6) Monitoring for signs of difficulty, the program intervenes with assistance when the student is challenged by a word.
- 7) Quizzes assess comprehension and students are encouraged to revisit unfamiliar text.
- 8) The software maintains careful performance records and the corresponding audio of each reading session.

How Can My Child Benefit?

Reading Assistant™ is for all students who have basic word recognition and decoding skills and are now building vocabulary, fluency and comprehension. This includes students as young as first graders, all the way up to adults.

In fact, a National Reading Panel commissioned by Congress found that, "classroom practices that encourage repeated oral reading with feedback and guidance lead to meaningful improvements in reading expertise for students - for good readers as well as those who are experiencing difficulty. Guided oral reading is the best way to foster fluency." (2000)

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READING ASSISTANT

GUIDED ORAL READING THROUGH ADVANCED SPEECH RECOGNITION



Great Results Are The Norm

Research has repeatedly shown that Reading Assistant™ (under the recommended protocols) enhances vocabulary, fluency and comprehension. These changes last a lifetime!

How Do I Get My Child Started?

Contact *Speech Plus* to discuss your concerns regarding your child's reading fluency and determine if Reading Assistant™ is the right fit for your child. Once enrolled, a schedule will be customized to meet your child's needs. A typical protocol for Reading Assistant™ is two-30 minute sessions/week. Progress is continually reviewed and monitored and results are shared with parents.

Reading Assistant™ is effective on its own, but coupled with the Wilson Reading System®, provides a powerful remediation solution to reading, spelling and comprehension difficulties.