

THE SPEECH-TO-PRINT ADVANTAGE FOR NEURODIVERGENT LEARNERS

Presented by Monkeypod Education

MY STORY

- I've been a teacher and literacy specialist for over twenty years.
- During virtual learning, my son Rory struggled despite my training.
- His dyslexia diagnosis pushed me to search for better tools.
- Discovering speech-to-print transformed his progress.
- That experience inspired me to create Monkeypod Education - so families don't have to face what we did

WHY THIS MATTERS

- Only 35% of 4th graders read on grade level.
- ND kids often get overwhelmed, mislabeled or mis-taught.
- Reading struggles impact confidence, mental health and school engagement.
- Your child's brain is capable — they just need a more efficient approach.

UNDERSTANDING NEURODIVERGENT LEARNERS

- **Dyslexia:** difficulty connecting sounds to letters
 - **ADHD:** working memory + attention differences
 - **Dysgraphia:** challenges with writing + motor output
 - **Autism (ASD):** pattern strength, need for predictability
- ➡ We fit instruction to the child — not the child to the instruction.

THE METHOD MATTERS

TRADITIONAL APPROACHES

Starts with letters

Lots of rules

Skills taught separately

Slow progress toward real books

SPEECH TO PRINT ADVANTAGE

Starts with speech (what kids know)

Simple language + flexible steps

Reading + writing taught together

Faster progress + earlier success

WHY IT WORKS FOR NEURODIVERGENT KIDS

- Simple routines that reduce cognitive load
- Flexible skills kids can use in any word
- Reading + writing build confidence
- Lets kids read at the level of their intelligence

SPEECH TO PRINT PROGRAMS

EBLI

Sounds Write
Reading Simplified
Phonographix
Spell-Links
That Reading Thing

MONKEYPOD EDUCATION
PARENT GUIDE



PRACTICING READING AT HOME

- The goal is more time with eyes on print
- Start small and keep routines simple
- Choose reading that feels doable and interesting

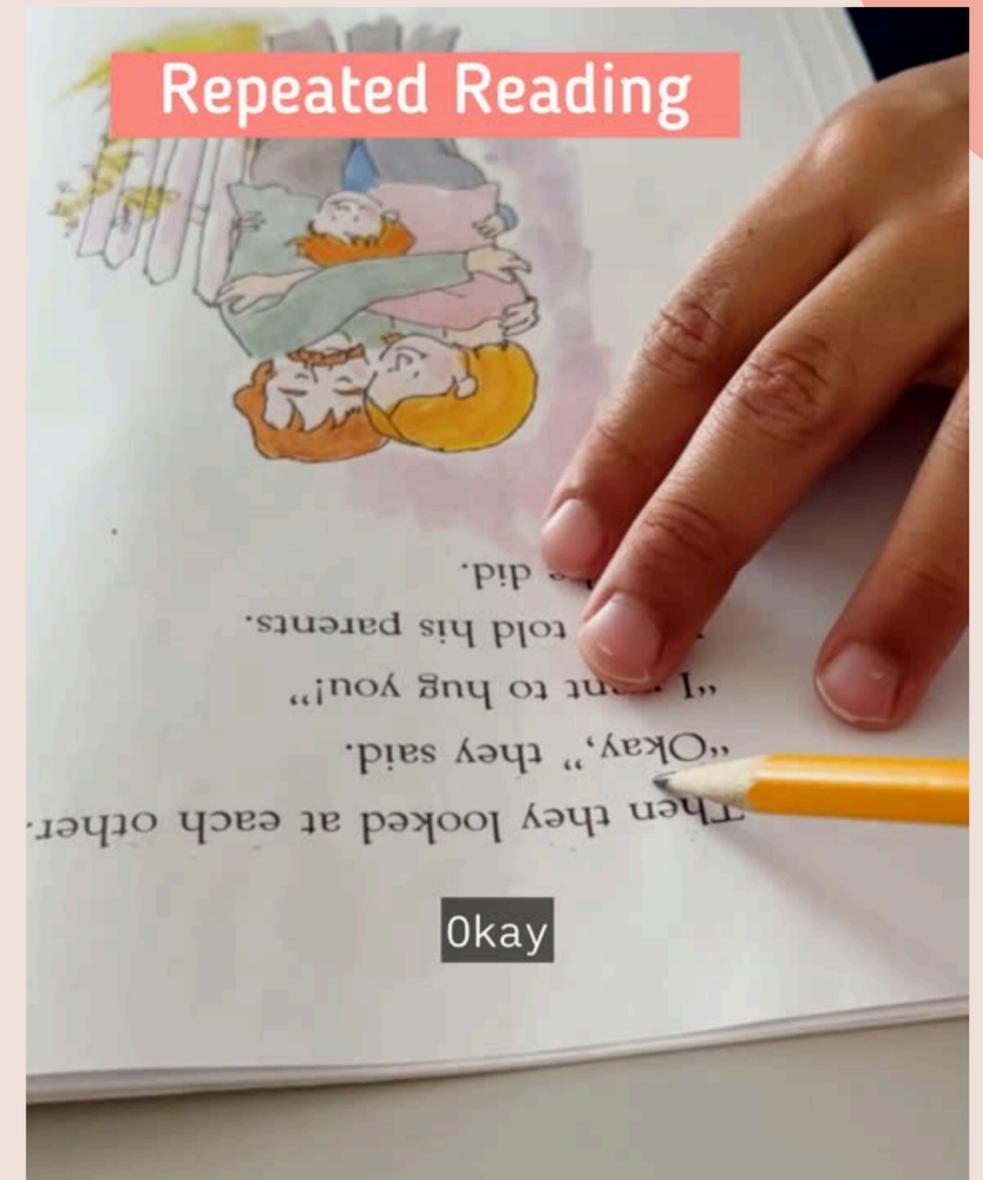
CHOOSING WHAT TO READ

- Pick texts that match their interests and thinking
- Use books or passages with patterns they know
- Include magazines, graphic novels, and short nonfiction
- Anything that keeps them engaged counts



HOW TO HELP WHILE THEY READ

- Use your finger or a pencil to guide left to right
- Keep feedback short
- If stuck, give the missing sound
- If that sound doesn't work, try another one
- Blend smoothly



READING LONGER WORDS

- Break the word into parts
- Cover up the rest with your finger
- Read one part → then the next
- Blend the parts together smoothly



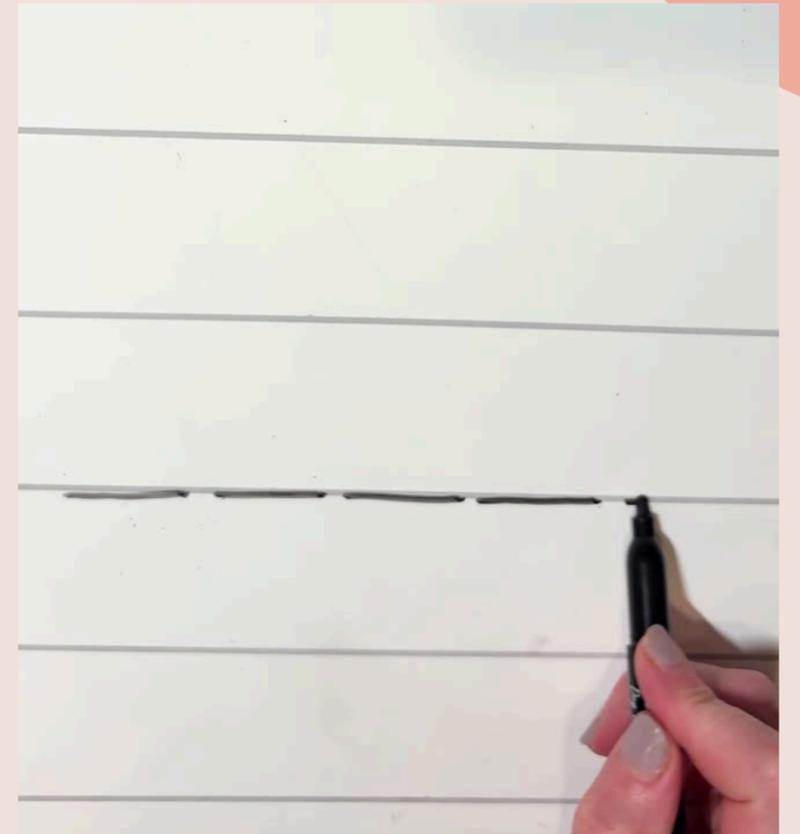
WHITEBOARD SPELLING ROUTINE

- Say the whole word together
- Stretch it and hear the sounds
- Draw a line for each sound
- Write the letters that match each sound
- Read the finished word together

SPELLING A ONE SYLLABLE WORD

Word: plant

1. Say the word: "plant"
2. Stretch it: /p/ /l/ /a/ /n/ /t/
3. Draw a line for each sound
4. Write the letters that match each sound
5. Read the finished word together



SPELLING LONGER WORDS

- Say the whole word
- Sing it to hear the syllables clearly
- Draw a big line for each syllable
- Write the letters that match each sound
- Point out any tricky spot lightly
- Read the whole word together

SPELLING A THREE-SYLLABLE WORD

Word: fantastic

- Say it: “fantastic”
- Sing it to hear the syllables: fan ▪ TAS ▪ tic
- Draw three big lines
- Spell each sound in each syllable
- Read the whole word together

A FINAL THOUGHT

Small, high-impact routines can create big changes for neurodivergent learners — and every child deserves instruction that works with their strengths.

If you have questions or want support for your child's reading journey, please reach out.

The background is a light beige color. It features several decorative elements: a thin, curved orange line in the top-left corner; a large, solid orange circle in the top-right corner; a large, solid orange circle in the bottom-left corner; and a thin, curved orange line in the bottom-right corner. The text "THANK YOU" is centered in a dark brown, bold, sans-serif font.

**THANK
YOU**