

# Early Literacy Skills Builder

## What is the ELSB?

ELSB is a research-based and language-rich literacy curriculum for children ages 5 to 10 with moderate to severe developmental disabilities. It incorporates systematic instruction to teach both print and phonemic awareness. ELSB is a multi-year program with seven distinct levels and ongoing assessments so students progress at their own pace.

## Who is the ELSB for?

The goal of ELSB is to develop the skills and behaviors children need to succeed in a standard reading program.

ELSB is a multi-year program for children ages 5 to 10 with:

- Autism
- Severe cognitive disabilities
- Moderate cognitive disabilities
- Multiple disabilities
- Mild disabilities who are English language learners

## How does it work?

ELSB has seven distinct levels, each with five structured lessons.

Recommended for 90 minutes of literacy instruction.

All students begin at Level One. If a student struggles with Level One, administer Level A.

Set up small groups or teach ELSB one-on-one.

Divide the lessons daily in two 30-minute skill-building sessions. By integrating Building with Stories activities in your last session, skills taught in the first two sessions are ultimately reinforced.

Modify the teaching to accommodate alternative response modes such as AAC devices or eye gaze boards.

Students are assessed at the completion of each level.

When mastery is demonstrated, move to the next level.

Repeat lessons as needed.

Promote students to the school's standard reading program when they successfully complete Level Seven.