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| IRIS Center logo. | **Outline** |
| **Bookshare**:  Providing Accessible Materials for Students with Print Disabilities | |

Module Home

* Module Description: This module presents an overview of Bookshare, which provides accessible educational materials to students with print disabilities. Topics include which students qualify for Bookshare, how they can access Bookshare's free, user-friendly materials, and how teachers can incorporate Bookshare into classroom instruction (est. completion time: 2 hours).

Challenge

* Video: In this module, you will meet three students. Gema is a ninth grader with low vision.

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Initial Thoughts

* What should educators understand about students who have trouble accessing standard print?
* What is Bookshare and how can educators and students access its services?
* How can educators implement Bookshare materials in the classroom?

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Perspectives & Resources

* Module Objectives
* Discuss print disabilities and their impact on reading
* Describe how accessible educational materials can help eliminate barriers for students with print disabilities
* Recognize how Bookshare can remove reading barriers
* Explain how educators and students can access Bookshare services and customize Bookshare formats and features
* Describe how educators can incorporate Bookshare into classroom instruction

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* Page 1: Reading and Print Disabilities
* Reading is arguably one of the most important academic skills for students to master.
* Print disabilities include those that make it difficult to… [bullet points]
  + Link: decode [definition]
* Did You Know?
  + Link: Chafee Amendment [definition]
* Link: braille [definition]
* Link: assistive technology [definition]
* For example, sometimes… [bullet points]
  + Link: text-to-speech [bullet points]
* For Your Information
  + Audio: In this interview, Andrew Kahn discusses the emotional impact of reading barriers on students and some visible signs of this in the classroom.

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* Page 2: Accessible Educational Materials
* As you just learned, providing educational materials exclusively in text-based formats can create barriers for students with print disabilities.
* *Accessibility* is when [box]
* Format/Description/Example [table]
  + Link: refreshable braille display [definition]
* Did You Know?
  + Link: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) [definition]
* Digital Accessibility
  + Digital materials that are not accessible include… [bullet points]
    - Link: alt text [definition]
  + Audio: In this interview, Charles LaPierre discusses potential barriers to digital content and the importance of digital accessibility.
* Benefits of AEM
  + Link: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act [definition]
  + AEM promotes equity [drop-down menu]
    - Link: accommodations [definition]
    - For Your Information
      * Link: Universal Design for Learning: Designing Learning Experiences That Engage and Challenge All Students [IRIS Module]
  + AEM facilitates inclusion [drop-down menu]
    - Link: inclusion [definition]
  + AEM reduces cognitive load [drop-down menu]
    - Link: cognitive load [definition]
  + AEM increases learner agency [drop-down menu]
    - Link: learner agency [definition]
  + Research Shows
  + Activity

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* Page 3: What is Bookshare?
* Although AEM is crucial in supporting learners with print disabilities, knowing where to start can be difficult.
* Bookshare [box]
  + Link: Bookshare [website]
* Bookshare’s comprehensive collection of materials is… [bullet points]
  + Link: braille notetakers [definition]
  + Link: augmentative and alternative communication [definition]
* Did You Know?
* Benefits for students with Print Disabilities/Benefits for Educators [table]
  + Link: individualized education programs (IEPs) [definition]
  + Link: 504 plans [definition]
* Specifically, students must be unable to interact with standard printed materials because they cannot… [bullet points]
* For Your Information
* Audio: In the interview below, Nicole Harris offers a teacher’s perspective on how Bookshare can support students.
* Audio: In the interview below, Brian Meersma offers a student’s perspective on how Bookshare can support students.
* Video: The video below highlights three students with print disabilities and their experiences with Bookshare, including how these accessible materials remove barriers to reading.
* Activity
  + Audio: Now that you’ve had a chance to reflect, listen to Lara Rondberg’s feedback.

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* Page 4: Bookshare Formats
* As you have learned, Bookshare provides AEM to meet the needs of a wide range of learners.
* Digital Text
  + Link: Bookshare Reader tool [web page]
  + Available on web browsers and as a mobile app, the Bookshare Reader allows students to… [bullet points]
  + Video: The video below demonstrates some ways to use the Bookshare Reader to personalize reading experiences.
  + Link: adaptive switch [definition]
* Braille
  + Students with visual impairments (e.g., blindness, low vision) can access Bookshare materials in braille in a variety of ways, such as… [bullet points]
    - Link: braille embosser [definition]
    - Link: Braille Ready Format (BRF) [definition]
* Audio
  + Keep in Mind
  + Audio: In the interview below, Sarah Caswell discusses the flexibility of the formats offered by Bookshare and how students can customize the features to meet their individual needs.
  + Audio: In the interview below, Brian Meersma discusses the flexibility of the formats offered by Bookshare and how students can customize the features to meet their individual needs.

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* Page 5: Bookshare Memberships
* Now that you are familiar with what Bookshare has to offer, let’s turn our attention to how eligible students can access Bookshare materials.
* Organizational Membership [drop-down menu]
* Individual Membership [drop-down menu]
* Question/Organizational Membership/Individual Membership [table]
* Audio: In this interview, Jacqueline Knight explains why she encourages students to get an Individual Account.
* Keep in Mind
* Activity

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* Page 6: Bookshare in the Classroom
* Educators can seamlessly and easily integrate Bookshare into their classroom instruction so all students can access the same information simultaneously.
* Setting Students Up for Success
  + Educators can facilitate students’ success by… [bullet points]
  + For Your Information
* Finding and Assigning Bookshare Materials
  + Video: The video below offers step-by-step instructions for finding and assigning materials.
  + Video: The video below offers step-by-step instructions for requesting materials.
  + Did You Know?
* Teaching with Bookshare
  + Regardless of how students access text-based materials in any content area, educators should implement various instructional strategies to support students’ comprehension… [bullet points]
    - Link: KWL charts [definition]
    - Link: preteaching vocabulary [definition]
    - Link: columnar format [definition]
    - Link: Question-Answer Relationships (QAR) strategy [definition]
    - Link: quick writes [definition]
    - Link: Socratic seminars [definition]
  + Audio: In this interview, Nicole Harris discusses how she integrates Bookshare into her classroom instruction to provide more equitable learning opportunities for students with print disabilities.
  + Audio: In this interview, Paula Rubin discusses how she integrates Bookshare into her classroom instruction to provide more equitable learning opportunities for students with print disabilities.

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* Page 7: References & Additional Resources
* Suggested module citation
* References
* Additional Resources
* Page 8: Credits
* Content Contributors
* Expert Reviewers
* Module Developer
* Module Reviewers
* Module Production Team
* Media

Wrap Up

* Summary of the module
* Revisit your Initial Thoughts responses

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Assessment

* Take some time now to answer the following questions.

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