



# Accessibility in *i-Ready Personalized Instruction*

## Feature Overview: Audio Support

**Table of Contents**

Dedicated to Creating Accessible Experiences .....	<a href="#">2</a>
How Does Audio Support in <i>i-Ready Personalized Instruction</i> Help Students? .....	<a href="#">2</a>
UDL Reference .....	<a href="#">2</a>
Configuration and Support .....	<a href="#">2</a>
Enabling Audio Support in Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary Passages .....	<a href="#">4</a>
Categories and Examples of Non-Audio-Supported Text .....	<a href="#">5</a>

# Dedicated to Creating Accessible Experiences

We are dedicated to creating products that are fair and accessible to the widest population of students. As part of this effort, our roadmap includes ongoing improvements to online lesson accessibility.

## How Does Audio Support in *i-Ready Personalized Instruction* Help Students?

Universal audio support is available in all *i-Ready Personalized Instruction* lessons and is available to all students, regardless of disability status, IEP, 504, or English Learner plan requirements. Audio support in *i-Ready Personalized Instruction* comprises editorially vetted narrations of text within *i-Ready* Mathematics and Reading lessons. This feature includes both automatically read-aloud audio and optional read-aloud support, which are activated by pressing an audio button. This accessibility feature supports the [Universal Design for Learning \(UDL\) Principle I: Design Multiple Means of Representation](#), and it provides an additional scaffold for all students. All lesson activities include:

- Professionally recorded audio that is curated by our creative and editorial teams to maximize pedagogical impact of the content
- Narration of activity instructions, correct and incorrect answer feedback, and pedagogically critical text content in each domain
- Automatically read-aloud audio and click-to-play audio through audio buttons

Please note: Throughout this document, the term “*i-Ready Personalized Instruction*” refers to both *i-Ready* lessons and *i-Ready Pro* lessons unless distinctions are explicitly named.

For a demonstration of the audio support experience in *i-Ready Personalized Instruction*, please refer to our short video on [Audio Support in \*i-Ready Personalized Instruction\*](#).

## UDL References

[UDL Guidelines](#)

## Configuration and Support

Audio support is differentiated in newer Reading Comprehension lessons in Grades K–8 and Vocabulary lessons in Grades 3–5, which contain a passage on the left side of the screen based on the chronological grade level of the student and the lesson grade level. The differentiation of audio support is designed to provide the correct level of scaffolding to students and to encourage reading skills while providing flexibility based on specific student needs.

- At Grades K and 1 in school, students are learning to read. Many of the instructional texts they encounter are designed to give them practice with decoding. These texts are typically written below the level at which students can comprehend spoken language, which is typically several levels above their reading comprehension. Providing students exposure to more complex texts that are at their listening comprehension level, similar to what teachers do in read alouds, gives students more substantial texts in which they can learn essential comprehension strategies, develop their vocabulary, and build their background knowledge. In *i-Ready* Reading Comprehension lessons for Grades K and 1, students are given texts at their listening comprehension level (which is above their reading comprehension level), and read-aloud supports are provided to allow students to access these more complex texts, as we assume they would not be able to read these texts independently.

- At Grades 2 and beyond, however, research shows that it is important students have plenty of opportunities to wrestle with the text themselves in order to build reading comprehension rather than relying on audio support. With our older *i-Ready* Reading Comprehension lessons, we were seeing students relying too much on audio support and developing their listening comprehension, which is already typically several grade levels higher than their reading comprehension, at the expense of their reading comprehension. Thus, we have set the passage audio support to be off for students in chronological Grades 2+ in order to encourage them to engage in more of a productive struggle and to make sure they are building reading—rather than listening—comprehension skills. We then automatically turn the passage audio support on as a scaffold when a student gets an item incorrect, as we have seen the student struggle and want to provide some additional scaffolding to support them in answering the question. In addition, if teachers deem it appropriate for a specific student to have the passage audio support turned on as a scaffold, audio can be turned back on from within each lesson.

The table below summarizes the default level of audio support based on student and lesson grade.

Domain(s)	Student Grade(s)	Domain Placement Grade(s) in <i>i-Ready</i>	Audio Support of Passage Text
Reading Comprehension	K	K–2	Passage text is read aloud automatically.
	1	K–2	Read-aloud support is optional, with the audio button always available.
	K and 1	3–8	Read-aloud support is optional, with the audio button always available. See the <a href="#">next page</a> for directions to toggle on read-aloud support in Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary lessons.
	2–8	K–8	The read-aloud option becomes available as a scaffold when the student struggles and gets an item incorrect. Additionally, passage audio can be toggled on in the student interface at any time if a teacher determines this is an appropriate scaffold for the student.
Vocabulary	K and 1	3–5	Read-aloud support is optional, with the audio button always available.
	2–8	3–5	The read-aloud option becomes available as a scaffold when the student struggles and gets an item incorrect. Additionally, passage audio can be toggled on in the student interface at any time if a teacher determines this is an appropriate scaffold for the student. See the <a href="#">next page</a> for directions to turn on read-aloud support in Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary lessons.
Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension	All	K–8	Comprehension questions, answer choices, and instructional feedback are audio supported. Documented exceptions are detailed later on in this overview.

# Configuration of Audio Support for *i-Ready Pro* Lessons

The table below summarizes the default level of audio support based on subject and domain in *i-Ready Pro* lessons.

Domain(s)	Student Grade(s)	Configuration
Foundational Skills	6–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audio-only answer choices are read aloud on demand.</li> <li>Some text answer choices are not audio supported due to pedagogical reasons where audio would give the answer away.</li> <li>Feedback and instructional audio will play on demand/automatically and cannot be interrupted.</li> </ul>
Core Numeracy	6–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Question, answer choice, and feedback audio are read aloud on demand, with some exceptions.</li> <li>Instructional audio will play automatically, with some exceptions. Students have the option to turn auto-play audio off.</li> </ul>
Language Comprehension	6–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Question and answer choices are audio supported, with some exceptions. Documented exceptions are detailed later on this overview.</li> <li>Feedback and instructional audio will play on demand/automatically. Students have the option to turn auto-play audio off.</li> <li>Passage audio can be toggled on in the student interface at any time if a teacher determines this is an appropriate scaffold for the student.</li> </ul>
Geometry Measurement Number and Operations Algebra and Algebraic Thinking	6–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Question, answer choice, and feedback audio will play on demand/automatically.</li> <li>Instructional audio will play automatically, with some exceptions.</li> </ul>

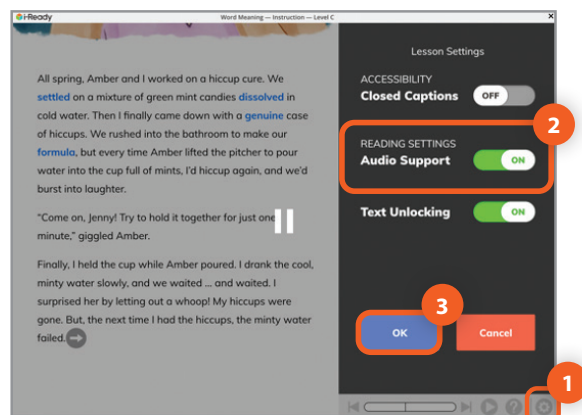
## Additional General Notes:

- Audio support with audio buttons can be interrupted or replayed by selecting the audio button (with mouse or keyboard, etc.) unless otherwise noted. Exceptions to this include when a whole word needs to be read aloud or if the audio is less than three seconds.

## Enabling Audio Support in Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary Passages for Students in Grades 2 and Beyond

Students in Grades 2 and beyond placed in Grades K–8 lessons in Reading Comprehension and Grades 3–5 lessons in Vocabulary should:

1. Press the **Settings** button on the bottom navigation bar.
2. Toggle the **Audio Support** setting to ON/OFF.
3. Press OK.



# Enabling Auto-Play Settings in i-Ready Pro Lessons

Automatic audio support is available for Elevate Lessons in Reading and Essential Lessons in Mathematics. To adjust the setting:

1. Press the **Settings** button.
2. Toggle the **Auto-Play** setting to ON/OFF.
3. Press SAVE.

## Special Lesson Considerations


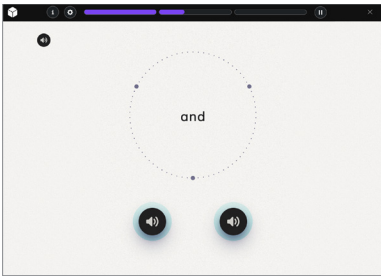
- Passage audio support will default to OFF in Grades 2-8
- Lesson settings will persist throughout login session.
- Lesson settings will reset to OFF upon each login.
- Lesson settings can only be enabled from a student’s account.
- Lesson settings may vary depending on the subject.

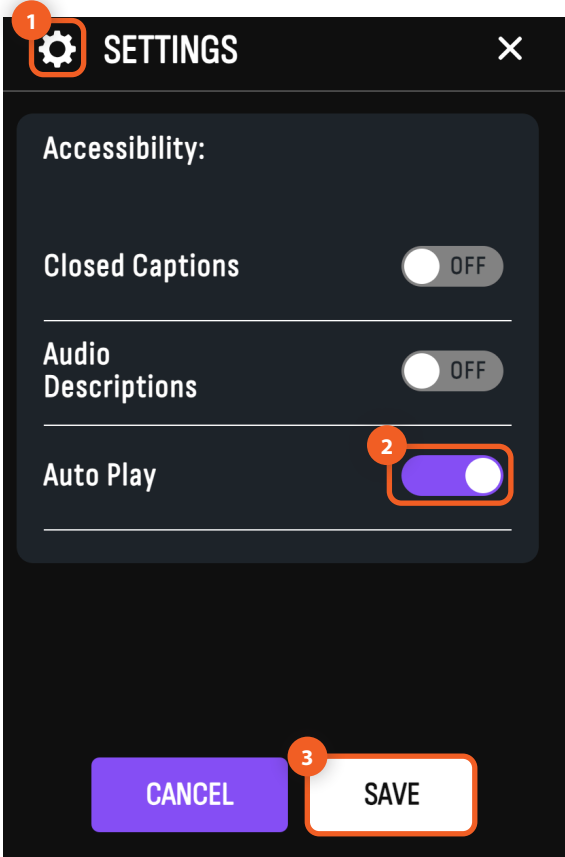
## Categories and Examples of Non-Audio-Supported Text

While every *i-Ready* lesson and activity does include audio support, there is a small subset of exceptions of text within lessons that do not include audio support. These exceptions fall into the following categories:

- Providing audio would give away the answer and compromise the pedagogical goal of the activity.
- Text is audio supported elsewhere on the screen.
- Text without audio support is not critical to the pedagogy of lesson.
- Audio is not provided due to product constraints.

**This table is a comprehensive list of non-audio-supported text in our lessons.**

Category: Providing audio would give away the answer and compromise the pedagogical goal of the activity.	
Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text	High-Frequency Words automaticity activities
Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)	High-Frequency Words, Grades K–2 <i>i-Ready Pro's</i> Essential Lessons in Reading, Grades 6–8
Screenshots	<div></div> <div></div>



Category: Providing audio would give away the answer and compromise the pedagogical goal of the activity, cont'd.

**Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text**

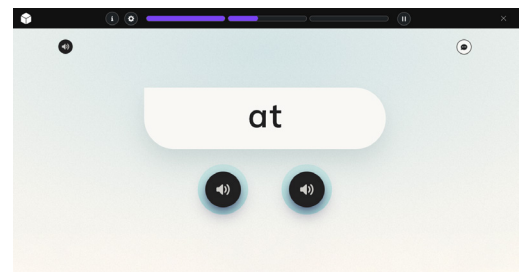
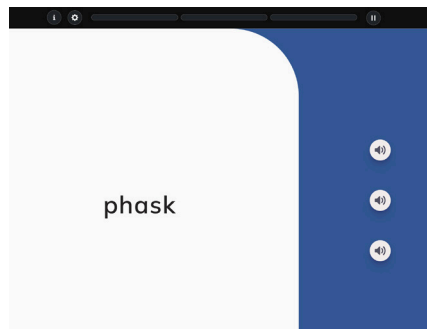
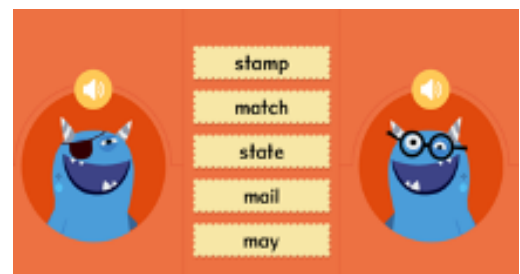
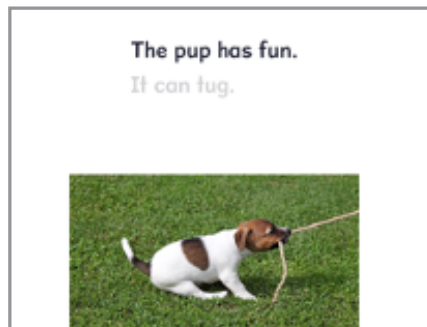
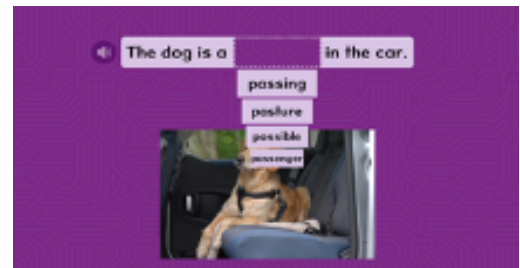
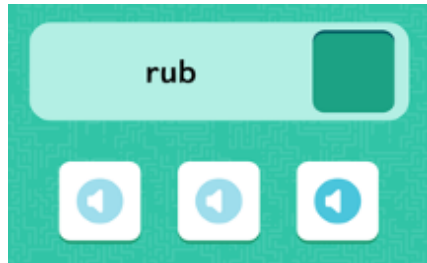
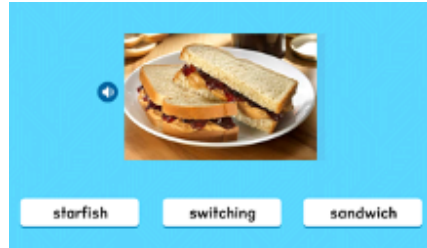
Phonics sound-decoding activities

**Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)**

Phonics, Grades K–3

*i-Ready Pro's Essential Lessons*, Grades 6–8

**Screenshots**



Category: Providing audio would give away the answer and compromise the pedagogical goal of the activity, cont'd.

Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text

Phonics letter-recognition activities

Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)

Phonics, Emerging K

Screenshots



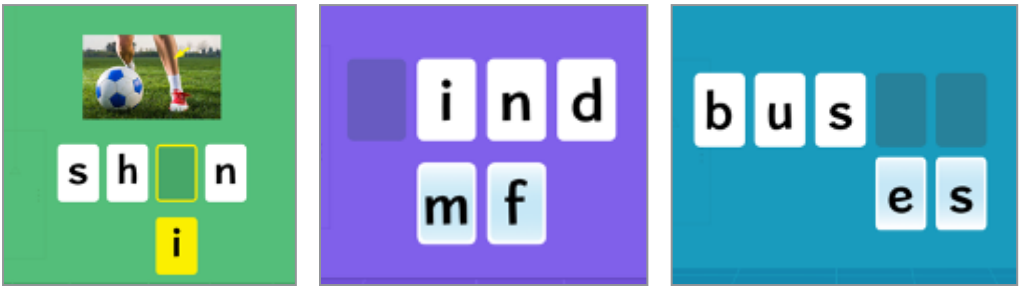
Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text

Phonics unscored spelling-recognition activities

Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)

Phonics, Grades K–3

Screenshots





Category: Providing audio would give away the answer and compromise the pedagogical goal of the activity, cont'd.

**Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text**

Phonics spelling-recognition, sound-spelling, and word-building activities

**Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)**

Phonics, Grades K–3

**Screenshots**





Category: Text is audio supported elsewhere on the screen.

Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text

Answer choices from answer drawer when placed in sentence

Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)

Reading Comprehension, Grades 6–8

Screenshot

Finish breaking the sentence into three separate ideas.

A new law passed in 1990 requires public events to provide an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter when requested, which means song lyrics are interpreted with hand signs at concerts.

A new law was passed in 1990.

The law requires public events to provide an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter when .

The requirement means song lyrics are with hand signs at concerts.

interpreted requested

Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text

Place value, shapes, and unit labels

Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)

Mathematics, Grades K–5

Screenshots

What number is nine hundreds, nine tens, and nine ones?

9 hundreds 9 tens 9 ones

4 hundreds 3 tens 7 ones

ten

1 ten 7 ones

hundreds tens

$542 + 385$

hundreds tens ones

$542 + 385$

hundreds tens ones

Subtract the ones.

2 ones – 5 ones

Subtract the ones.

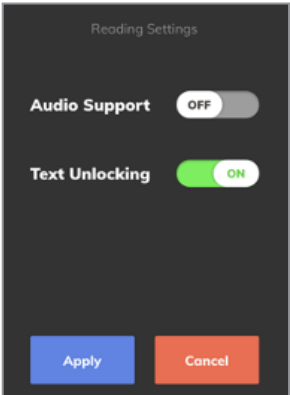
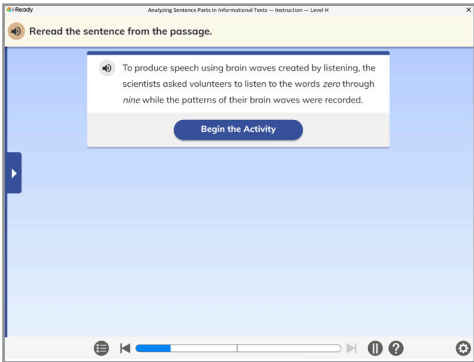
2 ones – 5 ones

There are 7 tennis rackets and 9 tennis balls. How many fewer rackets than balls are there?

Rockets

Balls

Category: Text without audio support is not critical to the pedagogy of lesson.

Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text	Reading Settings panel text
Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)	Reading Comprehension, Grades K–8 Vocabulary, Grades 3–5
Screenshot	
Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text	Begin the Activity button
Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)	Reading Comprehension, Grades 6–8
Screenshot	

**Category: Text without audio support is not critical to the pedagogy of lesson, cont'd.**

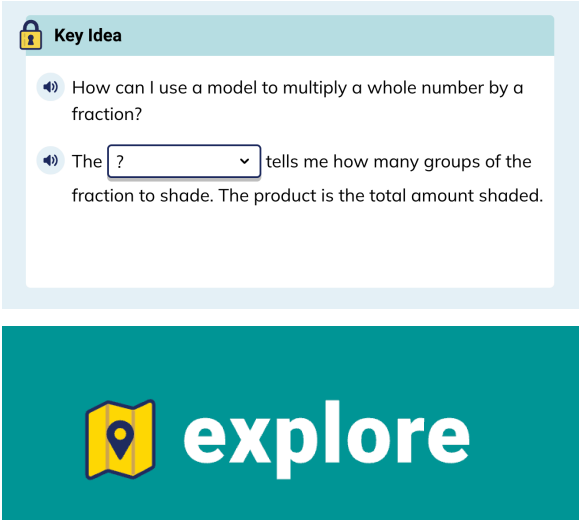
<b>Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text</b>	Find Your Clue and Your Clues headers in Feedback tabs
<b>Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)</b>	Reading Comprehension, Grades 3–8
<b>Screenshots</b>	
<b>Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text</b>	Vocabulary word-building and word-breaking activities
<b>Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)</b>	Vocabulary, Grades 3–5
<b>Screenshots</b>	

Category: Text without audio support is not critical to the pedagogy of lesson, cont'd.

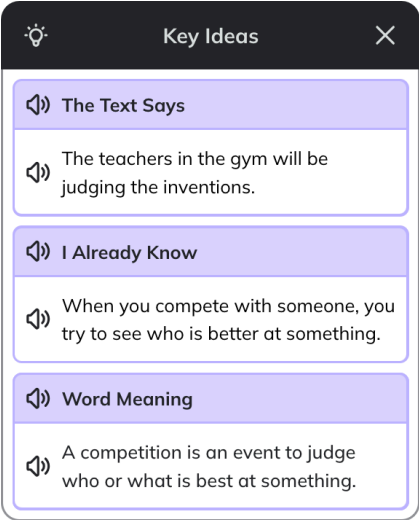
**Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text**      Section openers, screen headings

**Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)**      *i-Ready Pro* Lessons in Mathematics, Grades 6–8  
*i-Ready Pro's Elevate* Lessons in Reading, Grades 6–8

**Screenshots**



The screenshot shows a 'Key Idea' section with a light blue header. Below the header are two audio icons (speakers) followed by text. The first line asks 'How can I use a model to multiply a whole number by a fraction?'. The second line says 'The [dropdown menu] tells me how many groups of the fraction to shade. The product is the total amount shaded.' Below this is a large teal banner with a yellow location pin icon and the word 'explore' in white.



The screenshot shows a 'Key Ideas' sidebar with a dark header and a close button. It contains three sections, each with a speaker icon and text: 'The Text Says' with the text 'The teachers in the gym will be judging the inventions.', 'I Already Know' with the text 'When you compete with someone, you try to see who is better at something.', and 'Word Meaning' with the text 'A competition is an event to judge who or what is best at something.'

Category: Audio is not provided due to product constraints.

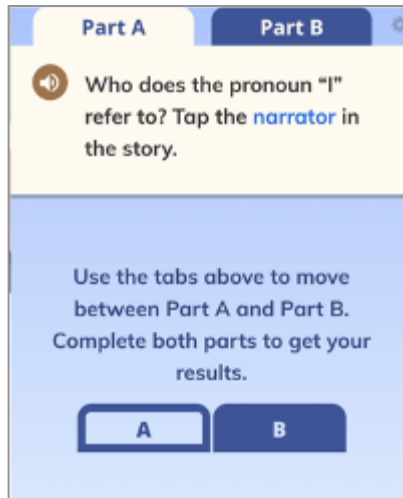
Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text

Instruction text and tabs in Reading Comprehension two-part questions

Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)

Reading Comprehension, Grades 6–8

Screenshot



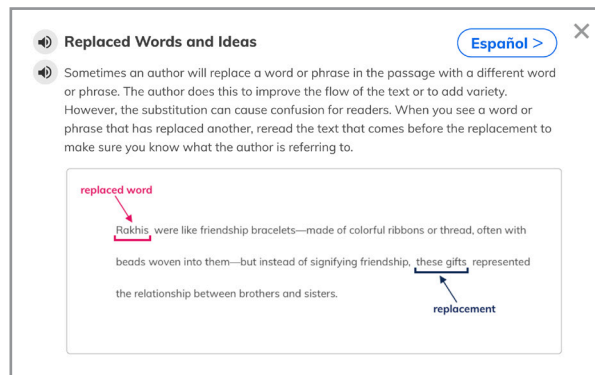
Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text

Intro lesson diagrams

Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)

Reading Comprehension, Grades 6–8

Screenshot



Category: Audio is not provided due to product constraints, cont'd.

Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text

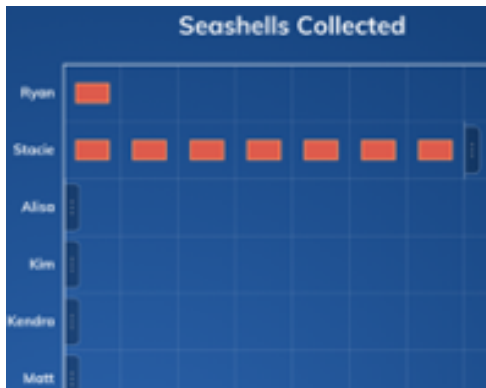
Mathematics table, graph, and column labels

Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)

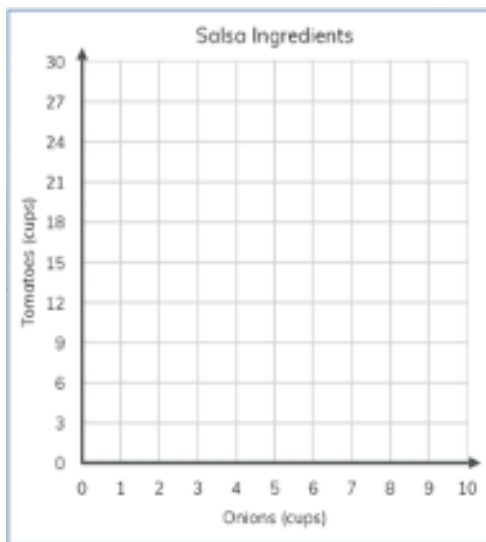
Mathematics, Grades 3–8

Screenshots

Name	Seashells
Ryan	10
Stacie	20



Flour (lb)	Butter (lb)	Total
10	5	15
20	10	30



Header 1	xxxxxxxxxxxx
?	xxxxxxxxxxxx
$2 \times 2$	4

True False

1 is a factor of every number. ☐ True ☐ False

2 is a factor of every number. ☐ True ☐ False

A number is always a factor of itself. ☐ True ☐ False

Waterside	Length (ft)
Twister	36
Big Drop	20
Little Drop	2

Little Drop: 7

Big Drop: 7 7

20

Music Preference	Number of Students
Alternative	15
Pop	45
TOTAL	60

Which bar model can be used to solve the problem?

Turtles: 15

Ducks: 15 9

Turtles: 15

Ducks: 5 9

	CJ	Kenzie
Weight (lb)		55
Point (gal)	1	5

Whole Bill	
127%	\$
Cost of Food	Tax and Tip
%	%
\$	\$

**Example of Non-Audio-Supported Text** Dropdown answer choice menu

**Impacted Domain(s) and Grade(s)** *i-Ready Pro* Lessons in Mathematics, Grades 6–8  
*i-Ready Pro's Elevate* Lessons in Reading, Grades 6–8

**Screenshots**

🔊 What is the main event in the part of the story in the box?

🔊 Mariana has brought her ? ^ to school for

? v

- waterproof robot
- bike rack cover
- lemon-powered lights

? ^

- whole number
- fraction