

# From Wits' End to a Love of Reading:

## EarlyBird helps Ajay get on track in reading



#### **Meet Ajay**

- Bright, fun 1st grader
- Struggled with reading at school
- Diagnosed with dyslexia after his parents pushed for testing
- Parents concerned he'd fall behind peers



Help Aigy bring b

**Family Goals** 

- Help Ajay bring back his love of reading
- Develop missing skills so he could catch up with his peers



D

- Deleting sounds in a word
- Matching words by meaning



- Repeating nonsense words (requires the child to hear, hold, and repeat sounds)
- Taking action from multistep directions

When EarlyBird met Ajay he was at the beginning of his reading journey and recently diagnosed with dyslexia. His parents noted that they were at "wits' end" when it came to helping him read at home. It was a struggle.

After 5 months in EarlyBird's at home program, Ajay's confidence grew. With expert guidance and a gamebased app aligned with the Science of Reading, reading became a joy for Ajay (and his parents).

The most exciting thing we have seen is him become excited to read! - Ajay's Dad

### Testing Ajay's skills with the EarlyBird Assessment & Dyslexia Screener

Ajay started his EarlyBird journey by completing the Literacy Assessment, which **tests 13 skills important to reading**. Based on cutting edge research, the test was developed at a leading US hospital.

Ajay's parents met with a **certified Literacy Specialist** who reviewed the scores and helped Ajay and his family understand the skills he was building, such as phonological awareness.

# Getting started on the Pip School reading intervention app

Ajay began the Pip School app even before his assessment. He enjoyed the game and asked to play with "Pip" (the toucan) every night.

In one game, he **categorized words** into two groups and practiced **multi-step brain processing** by following directions. In another, he segmented two word sentences and quickly advanced to segmenting sounds in words. **The app kept the level of difficulty just right** for Ajay's level.

#### The EarlyBird program: a dedicated Literacy Specialist, daily games, and weekly reports

The first segmenting games were challenging, but after connecting with his Literacy Specialist, Ajay and his parents moved through the games confidently. As he mastered skills, he progressed through new games. His family also received **weekly reports**, tracking his progress.

Their Literacy Specialist was only an email away. Ajay's family scheduled a few times to meet with her and discuss his progress and tips for improvement.

Ajay played Pip School 4-5 times per week for 20 minutes.

### What Ajay's family loved about their EarlyBird experience

#### Ajay's family loved the flexibility of the Pip School app. Here's what they said:

Being able to easily flex the times we used Pip School from once or twice on a busy week to nearly every day when we were both home really reduced the stress of **getting him the help he needed**. It may seem a small thing, but earning the prizes from each of the stands was an effective motivator for Ajay which helped keep him **stay engaged and interested**. Overall, super happy with Pip School and we have seen an almost **unimaginable improvement** in the short 5 months or so he has done it. Definitely recommend!



- Completed Pip School games in 5 months
- Mastered 17 essential skills for learning to read
- Created a solid foundation for the rest of his reading journey
- Learned to love reading again 💝

**Ajay's Gains** In 5 months with EarlyBird:

	Start	End
<b>Oral Language:</b>	58th	77th
Following Directions	percentile	percentile
<b>Phonological Awareness:</b>	43rd	84th
Nonword Repetition	percentile	percentile

#### Get started with EarlyBird's at home program

EarlyBird is an end to end reading skills program with the human touch. To learn more, visit us at <u>https://earlybirdeducation.com/at-home/</u>

\*EarlyBird's assessment is normed 3X per year according to the school year. All scores are recorded in normed percentiles, comparing the student scores to a representative sample of peers across the US at the same grade level at the same time of year.