Advocacy comes in many forms and can be done in a variety of ways. Whatever path you choose, have a navigation system to follow and forecast your child’s literacy growth.

**Location Services**
Ask school staff to review your child’s most recent literacy assessment results with you. Discuss together what the results mean and how they inform the literacy services and supports your child gets at school.

**Route Finder**
Discuss literacy goals for your child with school staff. Strong Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals should be SMART, or Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-based.

**Arrival Time**
Talk often with school staff about your child’s literacy progress. If you are dissatisfied with how your child is progressing, ask about the interventions available that are best matched to your child’s needs.

**Why?**
- Children with, or at risk for, reading disabilities often need much more intensive instruction than other children to keep typical growth patterns in reading. This is because they often learn foundational skills more slowly than typical readers.
- When IEP literacy goals are SMART, you and school staff can better track your child’s literacy progress and make any needed changes. This is because you’ll know exactly what your child needs to do, by when, and what it looks like when your child is successful.
- Children with, or at risk for, reading disabilities need interventions that target the specific skills and knowledge that are interfering with their reading growth. These interventions should also have evidence of effectiveness for improving these skills and knowledge.