



## Remote Tutoring Sample: Tutoring by Phone

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Before the pandemic, Judi Locke and I were tutoring the same student, in a second-grade classroom, on different days. When distance learning started, Judi and I contacted the student's teacher to find out if we could continue to work with him. The student is from an Egyptian immigrant family and speaks both Egyptian and English. The student had made good progress and neither Judi nor I wanted him to lose any of it.

When school ended, Judi and I agreed that we would each try to tutor him about an hour a week during the summer so he doesn't lose ground. The teacher had spoken to the mother about the tutoring and we arranged with his mother to have her cell phone number and call the student at a set time each week.

In addition, the teacher gave us access to [www.getepic.com](http://www.getepic.com) and the student's login for the summer. She also suggested some books at his reading level. This way, both the student and either of us can view the book he is reading. He still has access to Epic as well.

The tutoring is done by phone and computer. Both the student and the tutor see the same book online, as the student reads the story over the phone. Judi has tried FaceTime as well so they see each other. I have kept to using just a phone call.

The positive thing is that the student is reading and making some progress. The negative is that it is difficult to tap out words or have him decode as you would with a white board.

One surprising thing that has happened is that he loves to read graphic novels about supernatural people and fictional outer space. He reads with more expression than he ever read in "regular" books. Also, he surprises us by reading words that have to do with this genre that are above his reading level.

Tutoring *can* be done online.