Amira on Chromebooks: Recommended Setup & Instructions

Amira can work well on Chromebooks, and a quick setup routine (plus a few student habits) makes a big difference – especially for high-stakes assessments.

Chromebook Readiness Checklist

Before starting, check to make sure that your device is set up correctly for use with Amira.

- [ ] **Update ChromeOS:** Amira works on the current version of ChromeOS – older versions are not guaranteed to work.

- [ ] **Update Google Chrome:** Follow any update prompts. If issues continue, clear your browser cache and cookies.

- [ ] **Always allow the microphone:** To verify: **3-dot menu → Settings → Privacy and Security → Site Settings → Microphone**. Confirm student.app.amiralearning.com is listed under *Allowed*.

- [ ] **Check microphone settings:** Click the time (bottom-right) → audio arrow → confirm correct input device. **Set input to 50%.**

Explicitly Teach Student Behaviors

Model and practice behaviors that help Amira hear student reading clearly.

FOR STUDENTS USING THE CHROMEBOOK MICROPHONE	
Setup Recommendations	**Behaviors to Teach**
- Position the Chromebook 6–12 inches away from the student. - Make sure nothing is covering the built-in microphone (often near the camera). - Avoid cases that block microphone openings.	**"Stay in the Goldilocks zone"** Sit about 6–12 inches from the Chromebook and use a "just right" reading voice — not too loud and not too soft. **"Back to the noise."** Face away from noisy areas and avoid side conversations during reading.

FOR STUDENTS USING A <u>HEADSET WITH A MICROPHONE</u>

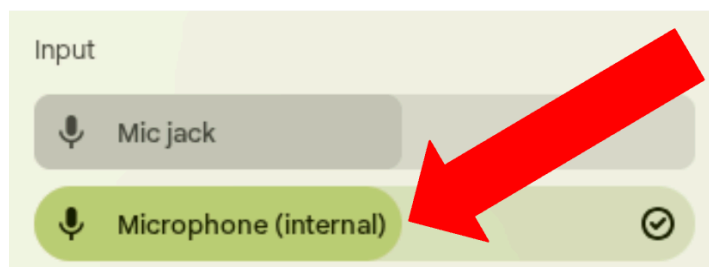| Setup Recommendations	Behaviors to Teach

• Plug the headset directly into the Chromebook **before** opening Amira.
 	
• Check the Control Center to confirm the headset is selected for audio input and output.
 	
• Click the **time** → **Audio settings** → **Confirm** the headset is selected for:
 	
    ○ **Input** (microphone)
    ○ **Output** (headphones)
 	
• Set microphone volume to 50% and keep it there. This reduces background noise and keeps voices at the right level.
 	
• Keep mic monitoring or sidetone features OFF to avoid distracting audio delay.
 	
• Position the microphone correctly: About one finger-width from the corner of the mouth, not directly in front.
	"Plug in first"
	Always plug in the headset before opening Amira. This helps prevent audio issues or freezing.
	
	"Check your mic"
	Before starting, make sure the microphone volume is set to 50%.
	
	"Hands off"
	Keep your hands <u>away</u> from the microphone while reading. Don't touch, cover, or adjust the microphone while reading.
	
	"Mic in Corner of Mouth"
	Keep the mic one finger-width from the corner of the mouth — not on the lips or directly in front.
	
	"Stay in the Goldilocks zone"
	Use a "just right" reading voice—not too loud and not too soft.