



I live in an apartment with my cat, older sister, and mom.



When I was really young my parents got divorced.



For the most part, I'm a "normal" 8-year-old. My favorite hobbies are playing in my room,



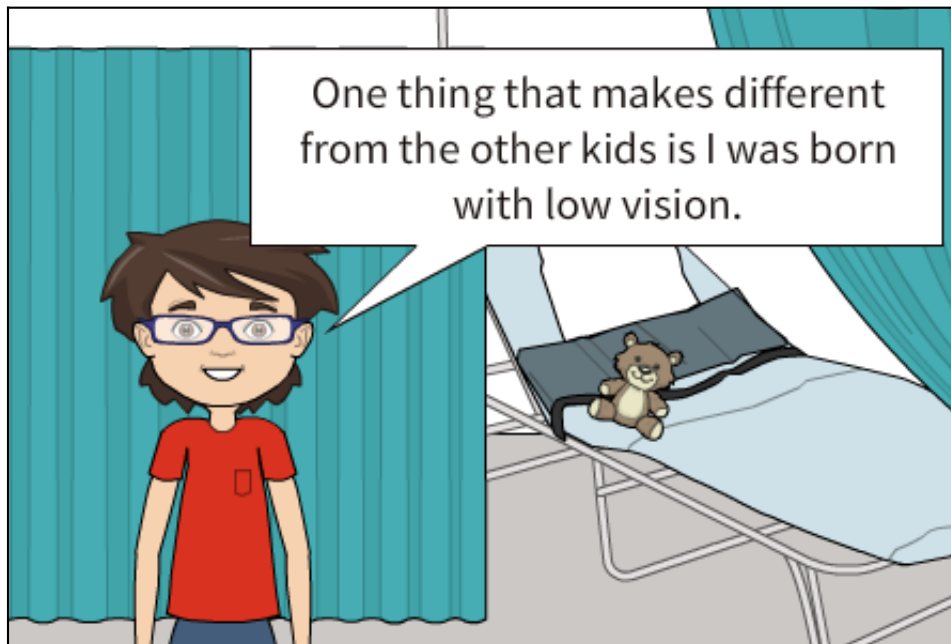
annoying my sister,



and skateboarding down my street.



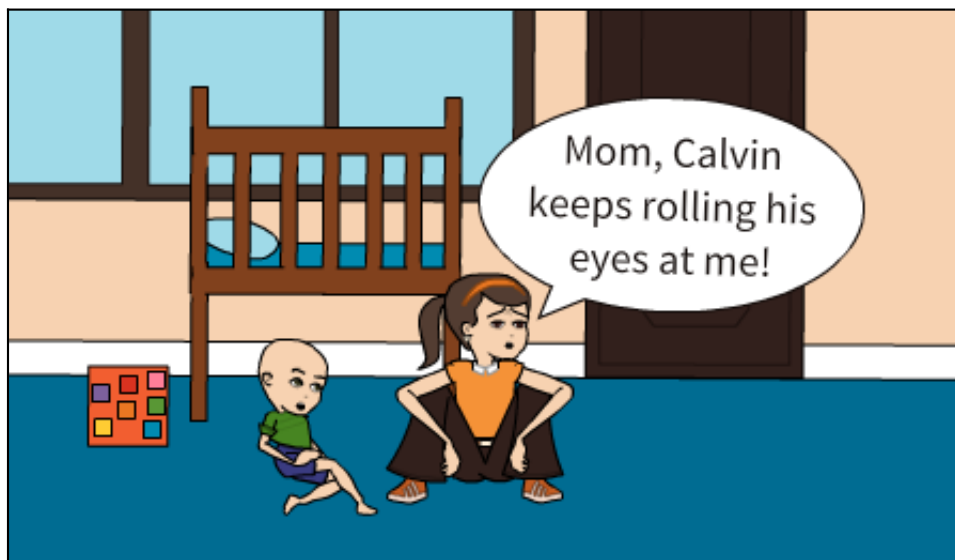
Mom said I can learn guitar soon - so I can be a rockstar when I grow up!



One thing that makes different from the other kids is I was born with low vision.



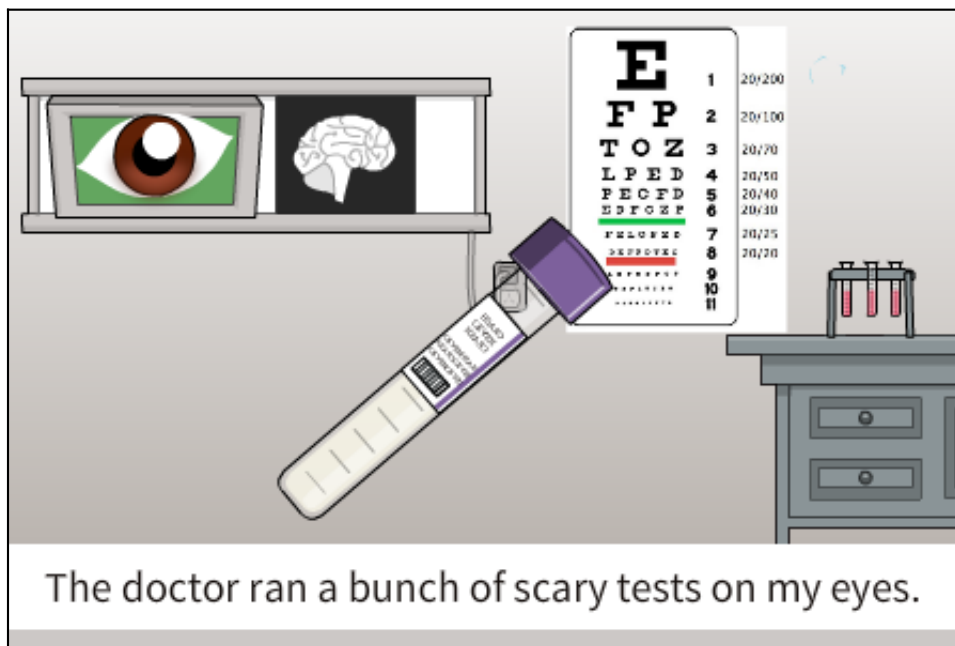
Mom noticed I was rubbing my eye a lot as a baby...



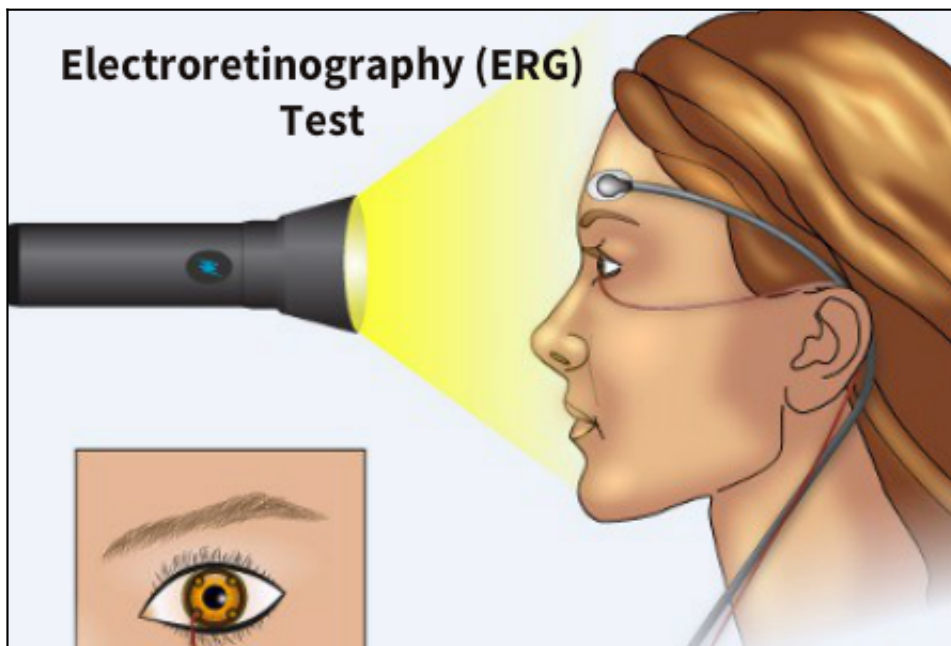
and that I had trouble making eye contact.



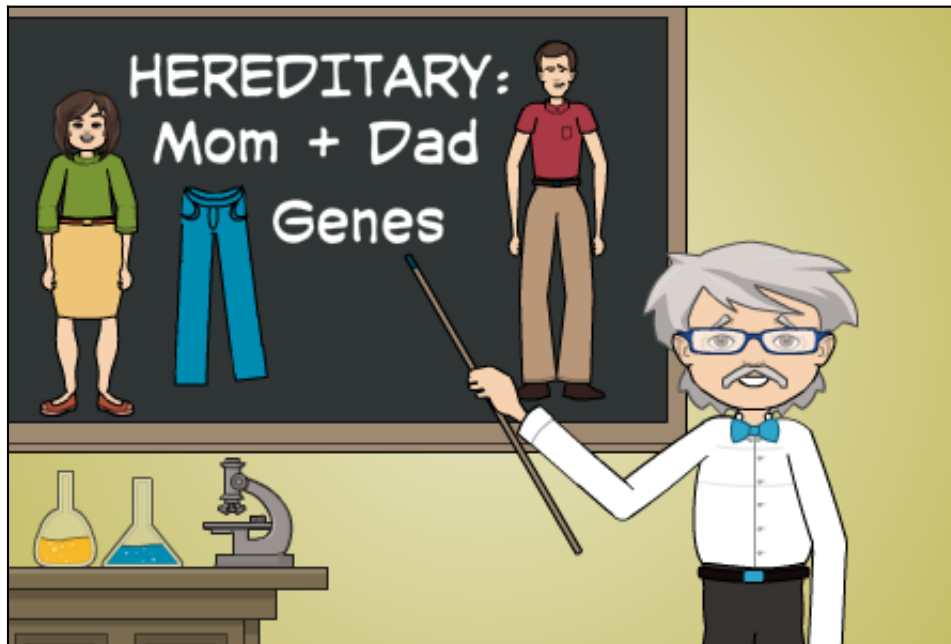
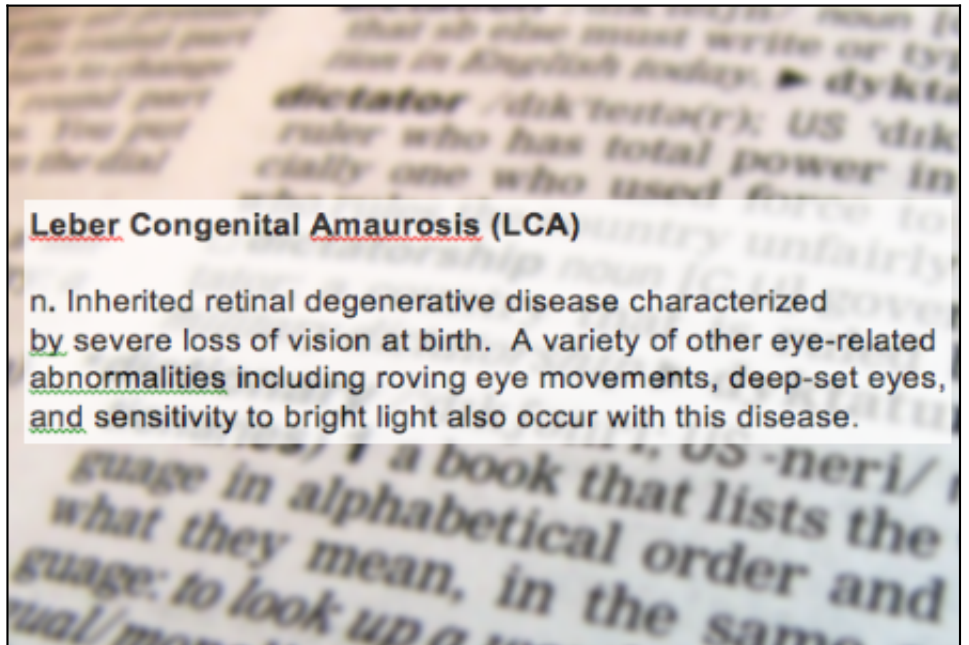
The doctor said I may have problems seeing.



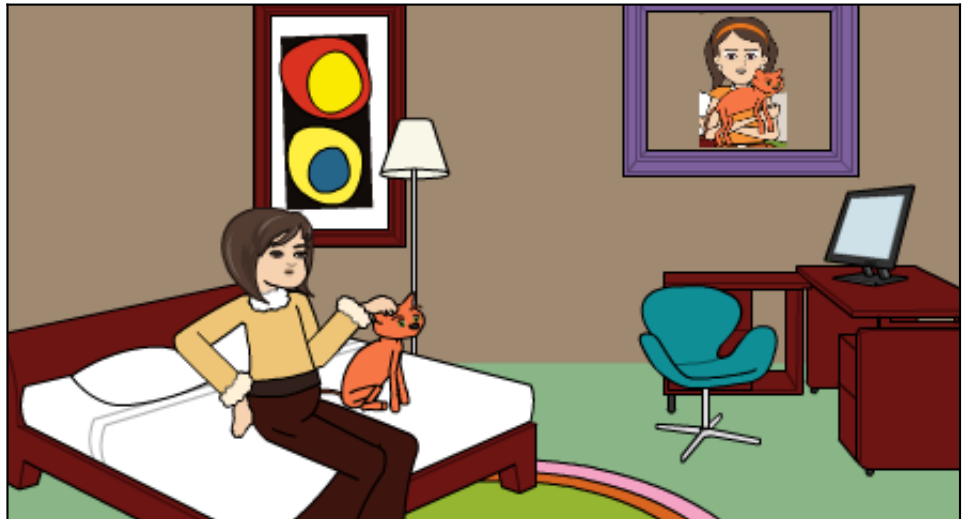
The doctor ran a bunch of scary tests on my eyes.



**Electretinography (ERG)
Test**



Part 2: Buffy's Story



When Calvin was two months old I began to notice that he was developing differently than my daughter, Willow.



I went to speak with the doctor and asked my friend Dawn to come along for support.

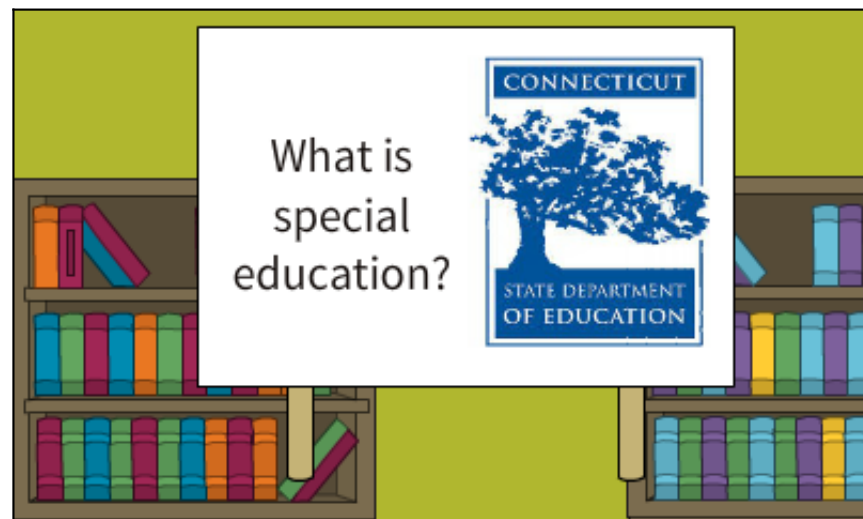


No mother wants to be told that something is wrong with her child.

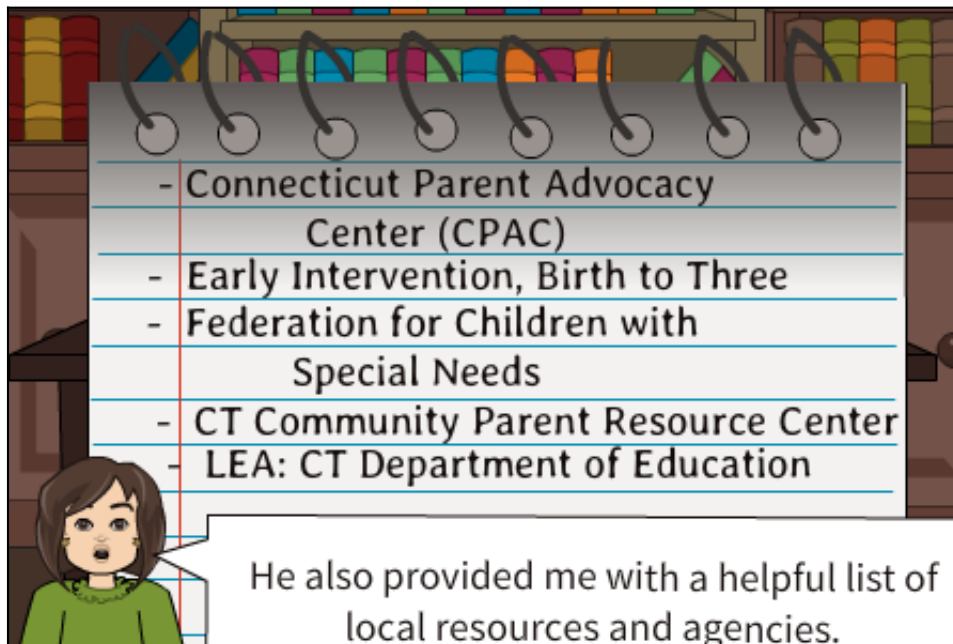




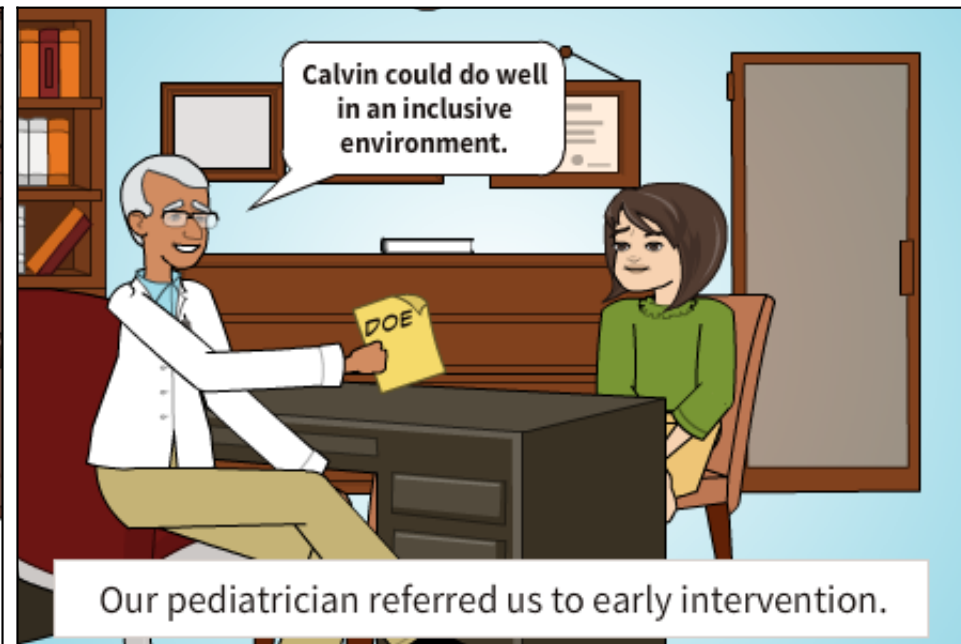
Calvin and Willow attended HPL's sensory storytime every week, which helped Calvin strengthen his motor skills.



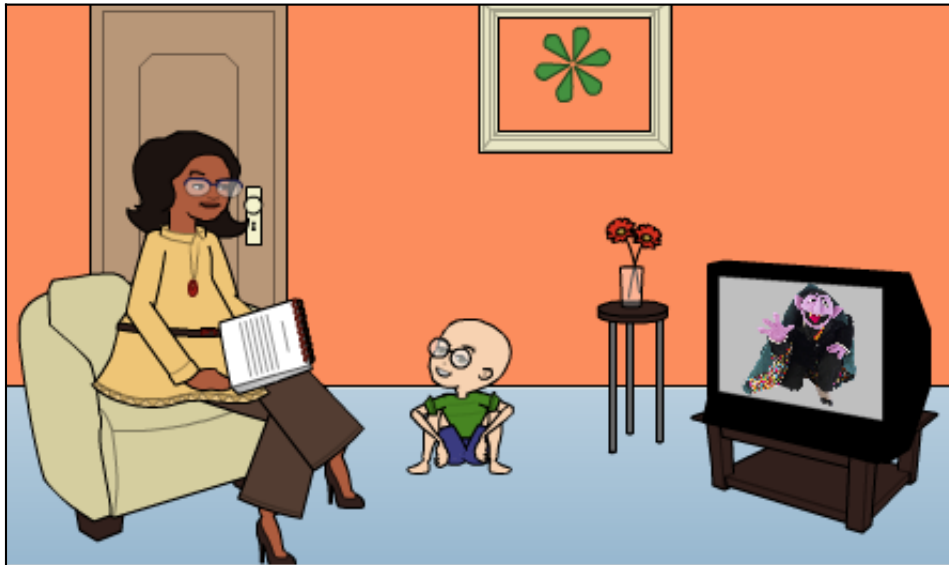
At the same time, I attended the library's parent education workshops.



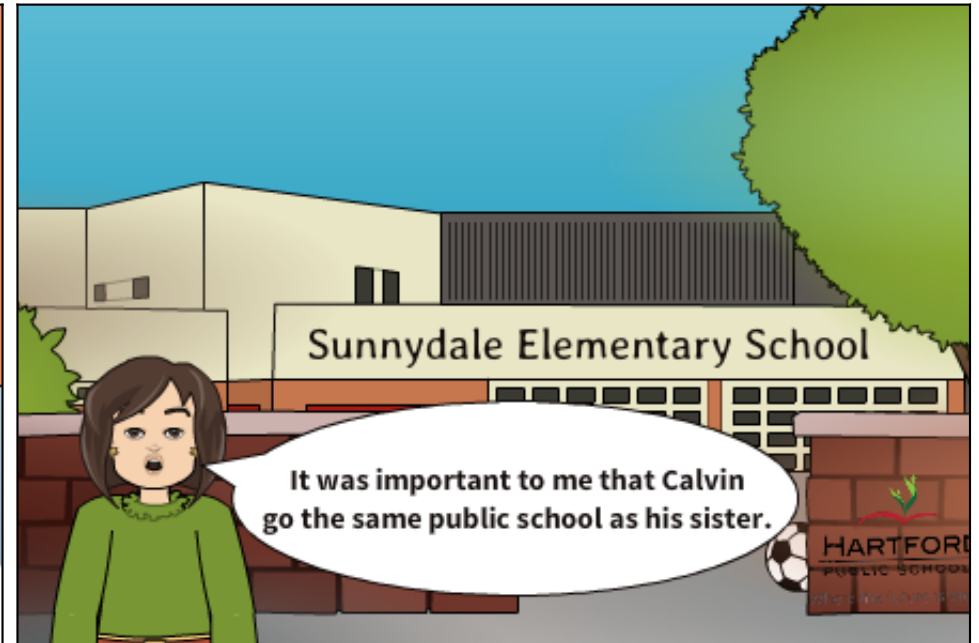
He also provided me with a helpful list of local resources and agencies.



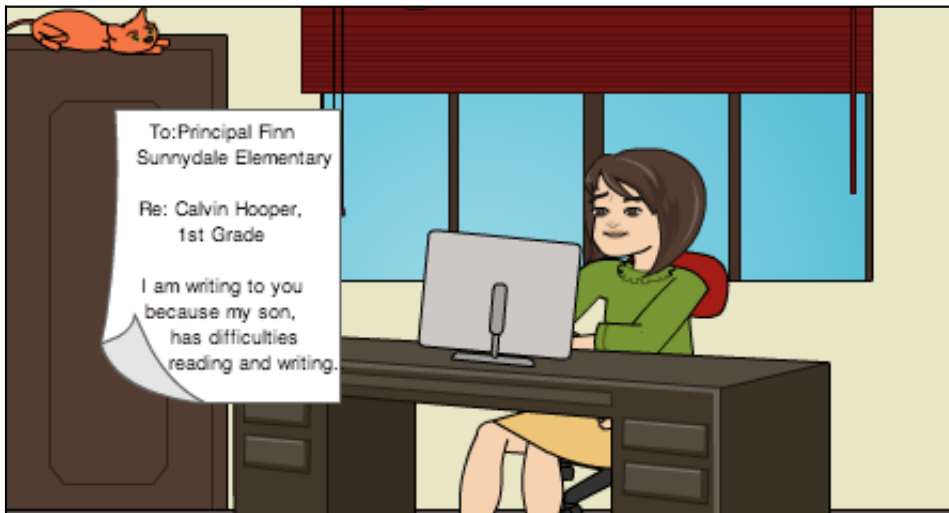
Our pediatrician referred us to early intervention.



At age 2, Calvin started to receive services in our home.



It was important to me that Calvin go the same public school as his sister.

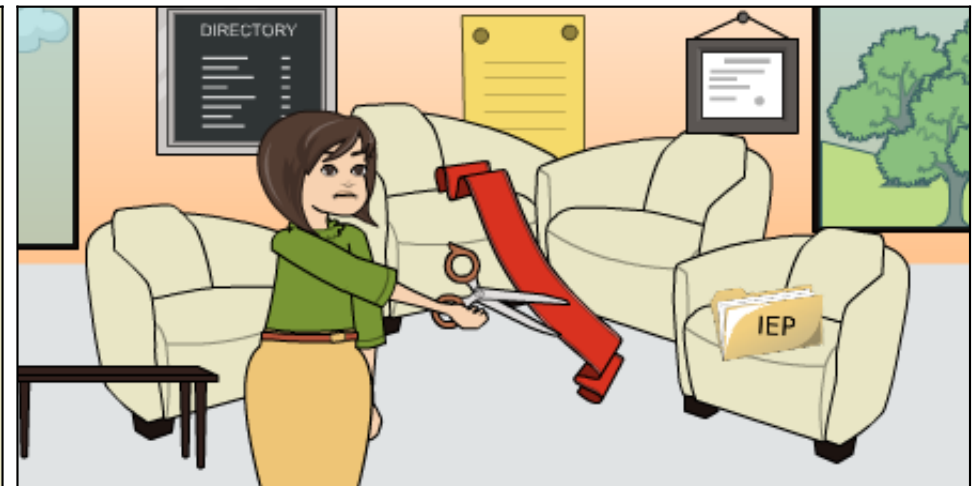


To: Principal Finn
Sunnydale Elementary

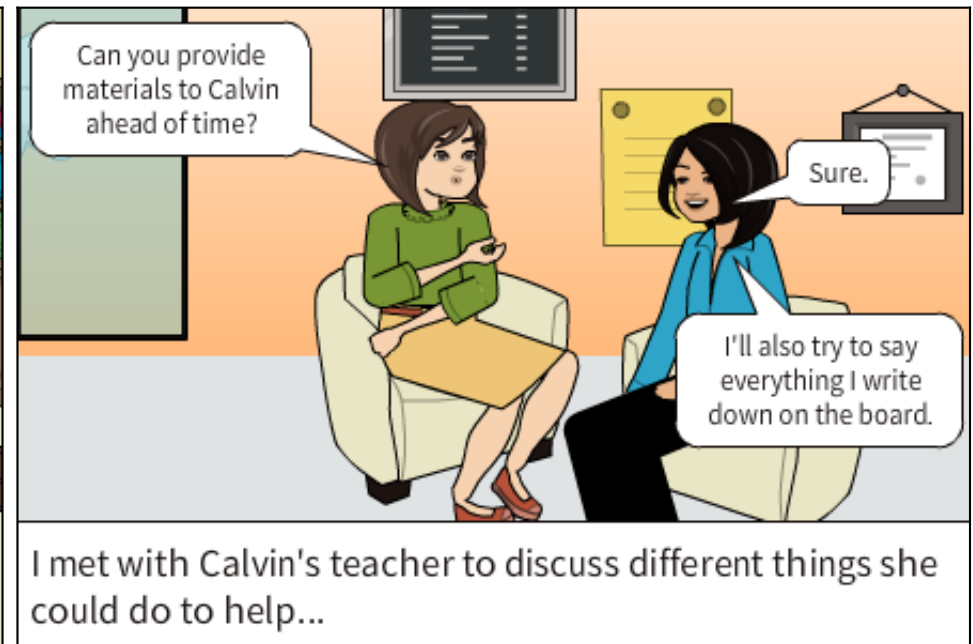
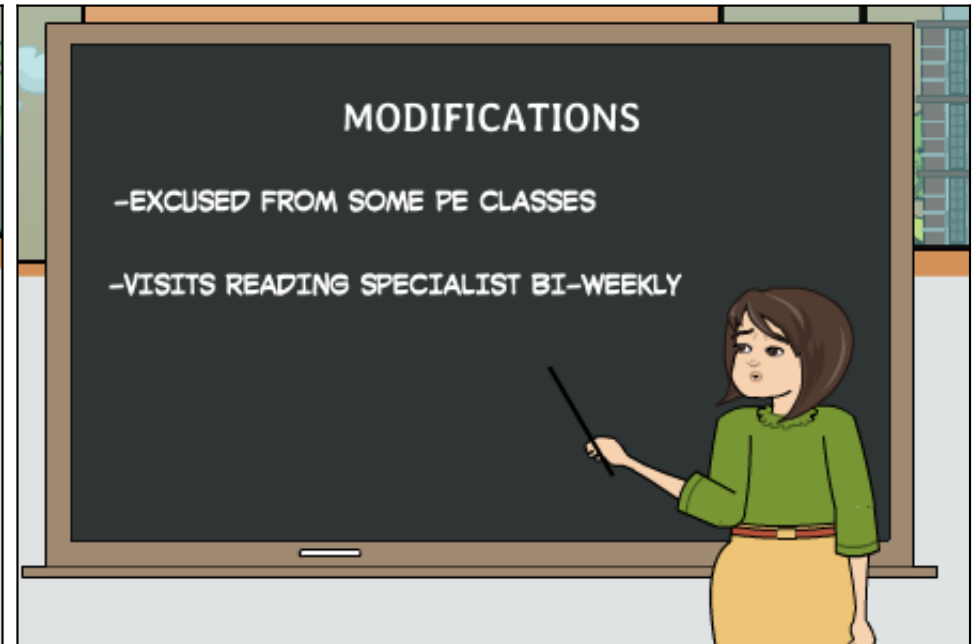
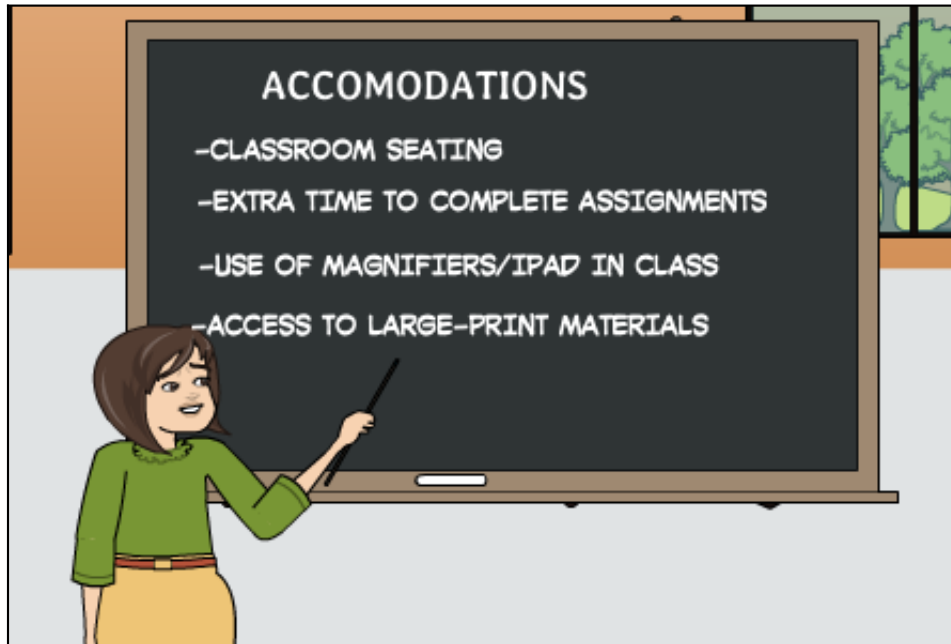
Re: Calvin Hooper,
1st Grade

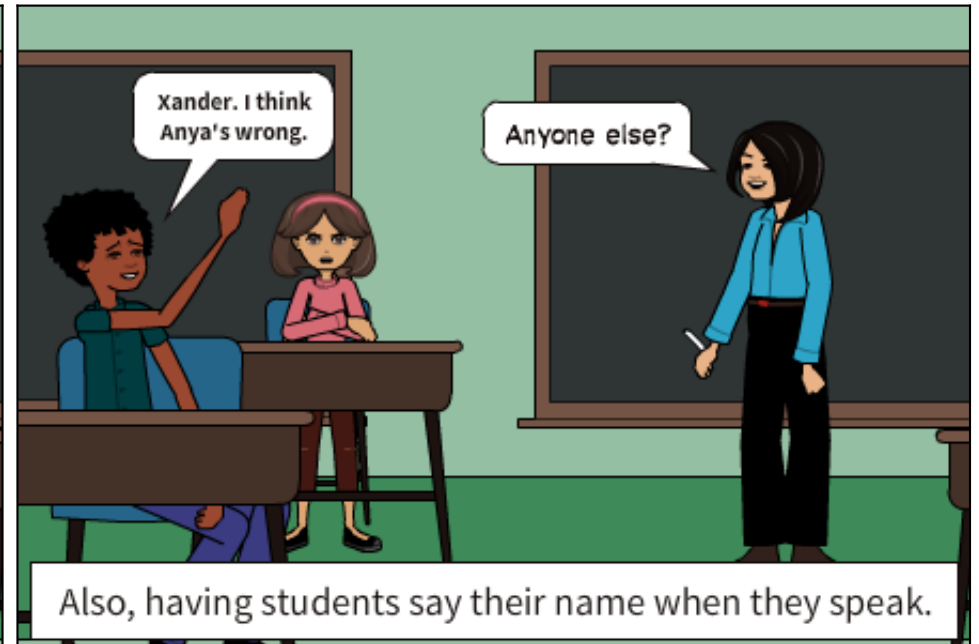
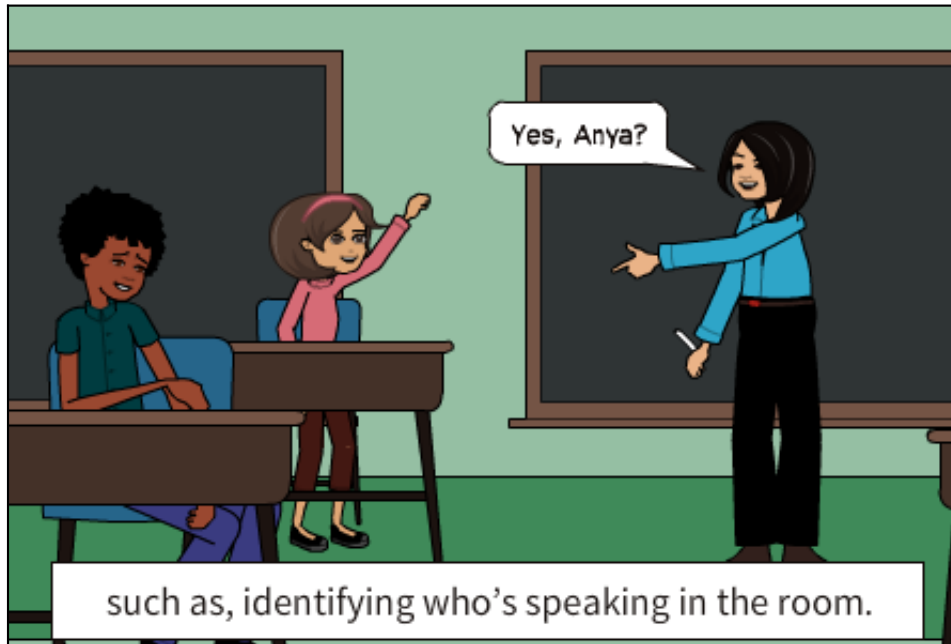
I am writing to you
because my son,
has difficulties
reading and writing.

I wrote a letter to the school district asking for a special education evaluation.



An individualized education program or IEP team classified Calvin as having a visual impairment. We then worked together to develop a plan.



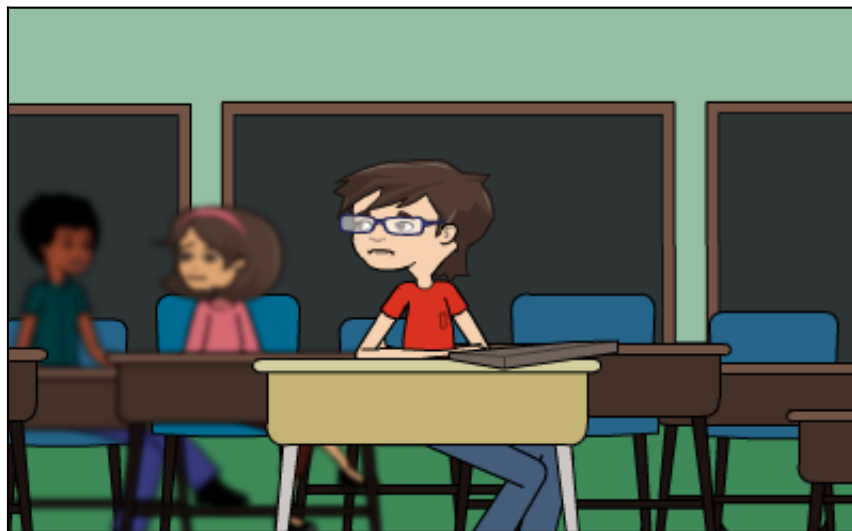


Part 3: Calvin Goes To School

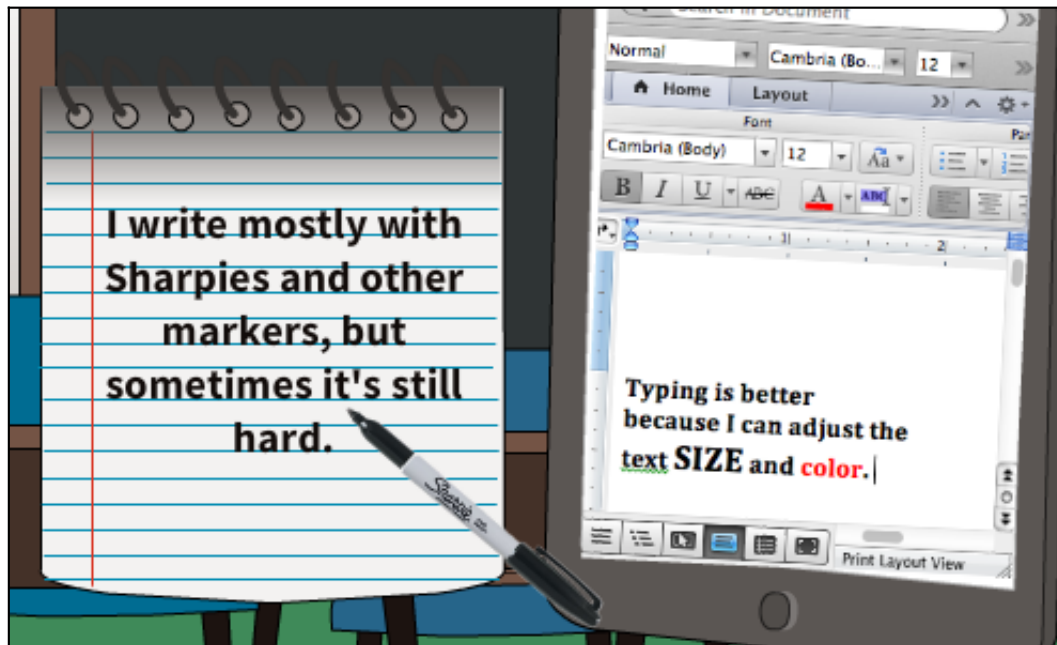


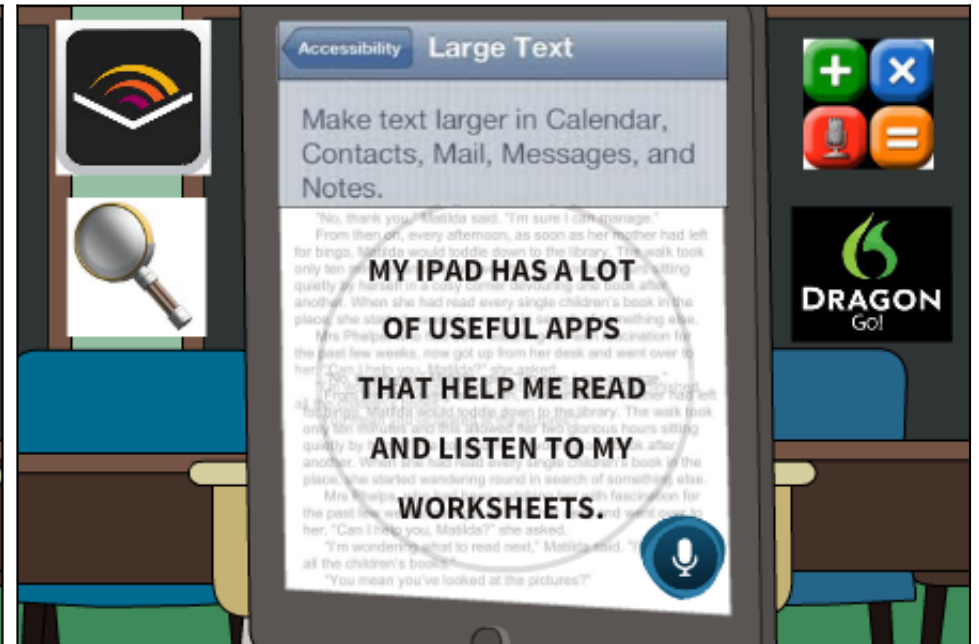
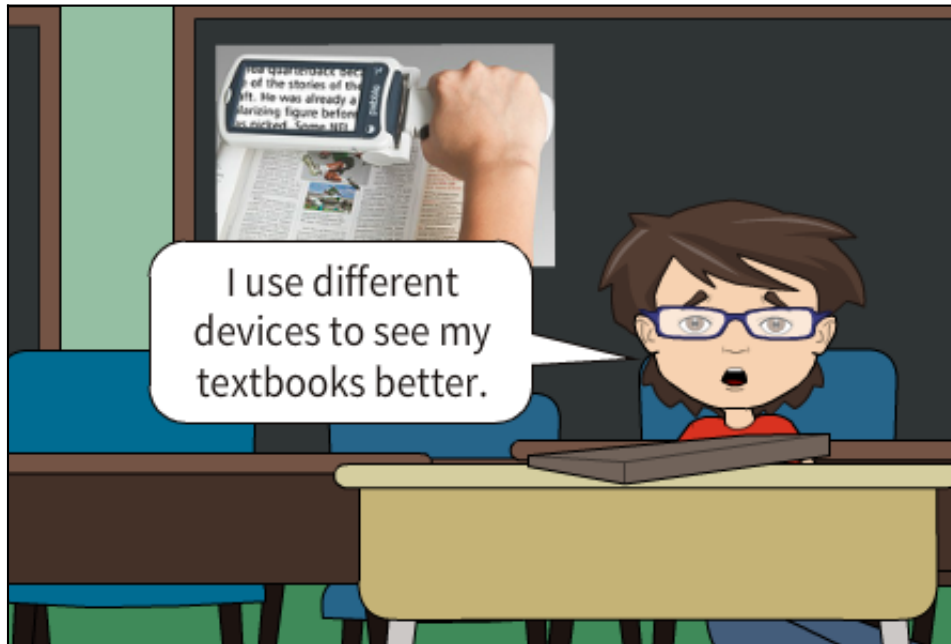


Every morning my friends, Xander and Anya, meet me at my locker.



In class, because of my vision, I have to sit up front, which make it harder for me to goof off with my friends.







Ms. Summers, the librarian, gets me books in different formats so that they're easier for me to read. I check out lots of comics and playaways.



Every couple of weeks I meet with Mr. Snyder to talk about how my classes are going and to do some reading exercises.

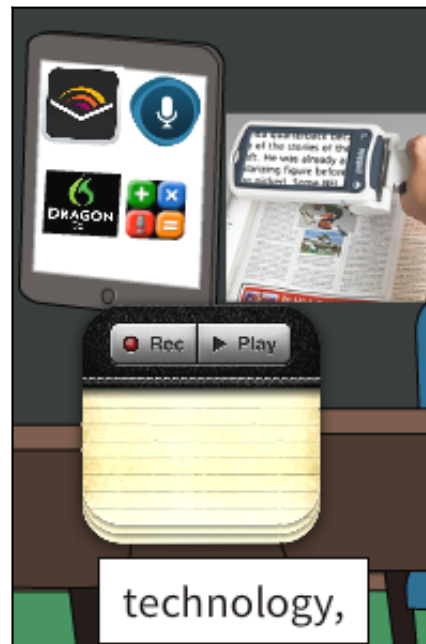


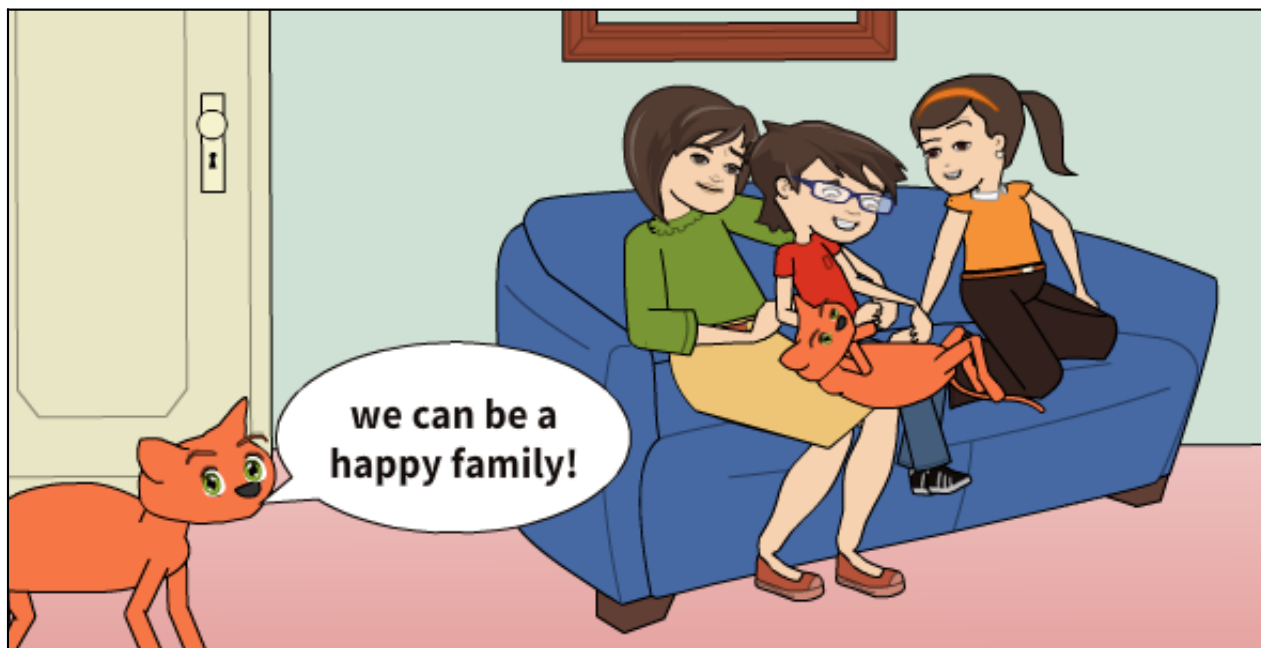
Music class is my favorite because I just have to listen.



Gym is the WORST.

Part 4: Felix's Story





The End



WORK CITED

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Rachael Wettenstein, May 2014.