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It's ABC to move Dylan to top of the class

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EIGHT-YEAR-OLD Dylan Haley was so far behind in his literacy skills two years ago his mother Audrey was worried it would affect his self-esteem.

Today it is a different story.

Dylan has been attending Brookvale's Kids First Children's Services and his reading and writing skills have improved immensely thanks to the speech pathology support he has received from the centre.

"When we had his skills formally assessed (two

years ago), we were shocked at how low his results were," Mrs Haley said.

"We were really worried about the effect this would have on his self-esteem and ability to understand his school work.

"But since he has been here, the one-on-one support has been really helping him ... with all the extra help he has been getting, he is now in the top reading group at school."

It's success stories like Dylan the Brookvale service is promoting this week, during Speech Pathology Week.

"Speech pathology supports children's language which helps with them with their understanding of writing, speaking, listening, spelling and reading skills," centre director Sonja Walker said.

"Speech Pathology Week 2011 is important because it helps the community to understand how important language is to learning.

"Without language children find it very difficult to access any kind of curriculum."



Dylan Haley with Kids First Children's Services centre director Sonja Walker.

