## BEAT ROCKER APP



## LEADER & PRESENTER:

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## INTRODUCTION

Ten years of teaching Beatboxing to almost 900 students with disabilities, we've unlocked how to make speech therapy fun. Students using beatboxing have noted improvements in vocalization, articulation, expressiveness and other speech-related delays.

Through development of a mobile app we will be able to make speech practice more fun for 6 million children ages 3 to 17. This engaging app will also improve the accessibility and reduce disparity between white and Hispanic/black children.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

We've witnessed the transformative power of beatboxing as an engaging, effective, and fun tool for youth with disabilities to improve their speech and social awareness while having fun. The development of a mobile app will increase accessibility of our teaching.

Elements of Beatboxing already mirror phonetic sounds that Speech Language Pathologists drill with their students, but the rigid practice often leaves students unmotivated and discouraged to practice in and outside of their sessions. Beatboxing celebrates creativity and individuality, which encourages the students to comfortably practice in any space while building confidence and skills. Through BEAT Rockers, parents, staff, and our instructors noticed improvements in vocalization, collaboration and expressiveness in students with developmental disabilities. As a result, their confidence grew and they've taken more initiative in leading classroom participation.