

MAE LEE

(3rd Grader with Reading Disability - IEP)

Mae Lee is a 3rd grade student with a severe reading disability diagnosed in the first grade. Despite intensive tutoring, assessment and services at many summer tutorial programs, Mae Lee still inconsistently recognizes 1st grade sight words. She even continues to have difficulty recognizing letters of the alphabet. She does not read in any other language.



Mae Lee's father is a structural engineer of Tibetan-Chinese heritage, immigrating to the USA ten years ago. Her mother is Thai, and a computer specialist. Mae Lee is an only child. English, Thai and Mandarin Chinese and some Tibetan are spoken in the home, but Mae Lee speaks only English. She does have fair receptive skills in both Chinese and Thai according to her parents, with limited skills in Tibetan. Mae Lee is "earnest, quiet, and shy" in class, but boisterous and vivacious after school and at recess. "You would hardly know it is the same child!" her teachers comment. Mae Lee has attended preschool, kindergarten and 1st-2nd grade classes in her neighborhood school. Mae Lee rarely has told her teacher work is difficult, but rather simply hides her papers. She has very strong memory skills and "fooled" teachers about her reading skills until early 2nd grade according to her teachers.

Mae Lee is an exquisite artist, and very bright orally her teachers report. Her last report on "My Family Heritage" was a series of tape-recorded interviews, coupled with her drawings and her own tape-recorded commentary. Her classmates voted it, "The Best!" and Mae Lee was so pleased she cried in front of the class.