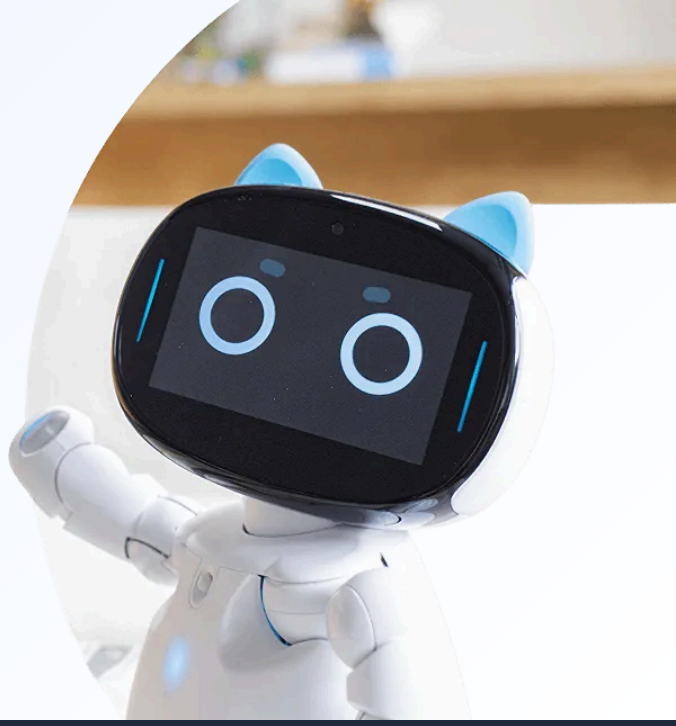
Telo

MEDIA BRIEF For journalists · November 2026

Classroom robots that give English Learners more time to speak



Telo AI gives K-12 English Learners short one-on-one speaking practice with a voice-first robot, while the teacher works with other groups. Founded in 2025, based in Miami.

THE STORY IN 20 SECONDS

9 schools
in Alabama, New York, Texas and Georgia

~850
students practicing English with Telo

5 min
per session, three times a week

+1 hour
of speaking practice per student each month, on average

Why it matters

Speaking is the skill English Learners get the least time to practice in a full classroom.

Districts want more practice without more staff or more screen time. Students just talk: the robot's screen only shows its eyes.

How it works

- 5-minute sessions, three times a week
- The teacher picks content and goals
- Telo adapts to each student's level
- Mapped to WIDA, ELPS, CA ELD, ELPA21

Responsible AI

- FERPA compliant, no student names
- No audio, images or transcripts kept
- Student data never trains AI models
- Open-source models Telo hosts itself

> "We want to be thoughtful about how we bring AI into our schools. For us, technology should support our teachers and create meaningful opportunities for students."
>
> **Dr. Wayne Vickers**, Superintendent, Alabaster City Schools (Alabama), August 2026

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IN THE NEWS

ABC 33/40, Birmingham, August 2026

Interviews in English and French

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