

DO YOU HAVE A STRUGGLING READER?

What is DYSLEXIA?

Dyslexia is a language based learning difference. Individuals with dyslexia have trouble with reading, writing, spelling and/or math. These difficulties are not related to intellectual ability or a lack of education. In fact, many people with dyslexia are very bright and have lots of strengths. Individuals with dyslexia can learn, but often need specialized instruction to develop these skills and reach their full potential.

What are the signs of Dyslexia?

Preschool children may:

- Talk later than most children
- Have difficulty pronouncing words
- Have a limited vocabulary
- Be unable to retrieve the right word; creatively formulate substitute words
- Have difficulty with rhyming
- Have trouble learning the alphabet, numbers, colors, days of the week, or months of the year
- Have trouble learning how to write his/her name
- Be unable to follow multi-step instructions
- Have difficulty telling or retelling a story in the correct sequence

Elementary age children may:

- Have difficulty separating sounds in words or blending sounds to make words
- Have a hard time learning the connection between letters and their sounds
- Confuse small words or letters while reading
- May read a word once and then not recognize it in subsequent appearances with the same text
- Have halting and frustrating oral reading fluency
- Make consistent reading and spelling errors
- Have trouble remembering math facts, understanding multi-step math concepts and word problems
- Experience great frustration when attempting new skills
- Rely heavily on memorizing without understanding
- Be impulsive and prone to accidents
- Have difficulty planning
- Use an awkward pencil grip
- Have trouble learning to tell time
- Be described by a parent or teacher as “Lazy” or “Just Needs to Try Harder”

Does your child have any of these signs?

Having one or more than one of these signs does not mean your child has dyslexia; many children reverse letters before the age of 7. However, if several signs exist, and reading problems persist, or if you have a family history of dyslexia, you may want to have your child evaluated. Formal testing, outside the school, is the only way to confirm a diagnosis of suspected dyslexia.

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Where Can I Find More?

1. ****International Dyslexia Association -Upper Mid-West Branch**
2. Rochester Reading Center
3. Yale Center for Dyslexia and Creativity
4. National Center for Learning Disabilities
5. DyslexicKids.net
6. Your Special EducationRights.com

**** International Dyslexia Association – Upper Midwest Branch website has a list of professionals under Resources/Diagnoses & Assessments**



Provided by Decoding Dyslexia Minnesota. DD-MN is a grassroots movement driven by MN families, educators, & physicians concerned with the limited access to educational interventions for dyslexia within our public schools. We aim to raise dyslexia awareness, empower families to support their children, and inform policy-makers on best practices to identify, remediate and support students with dyslexia in MN public schools.

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