

WARNING SIGNS OF DYSLEXIA

If a child has 3 or more of the following warning signs, please encourage the child's parents or teachers to learn more about dyslexia and discuss evaluating the child with a thorough evaluation and what next steps should be taken. Early identification is best, but it is never too late.

PRESCHOOL

- Chronic ear infections
- Delayed speech
- Stuttering
- Mixing up the sounds and syllables in long words or mispronouncing familiar words
- Difficulty in learning the letters and sounds of the alphabet
- Unable to recognize letters in own name
- Confusion of left versus right
- Trouble memorizing their address and / or phone number
- Trouble rhyming or learning nursery rhymes
- A family member with dyslexia

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Signs of dysgraphia (slow, non-automatic handwriting that is difficult to read)
- Letter or number reversals continuing past first grade
- Slow in acquiring reading skills
- Slow, choppy, inaccurate reading:
 - Can't sound out unknown words
 - Will make wild guesses because they cannot sound out the word
 - Reading that shows no connections to the sounds of the letters on the page
- Doesn't understand that words come apart
- Difficulty breaking words into syllables
- Letter confusion with b, d, p, q, m, w
- Terrible spelling
- Difficulty telling time with an analog clock
- Struggles with math
 - Memorizing multiplication tables, a sequence of steps
- When speaking, difficulty finding the correct word
- Complains about how hard reading is, or does everything possible to avoid reading
- Dreads going to school
 - Complains of stomach aches or head aches
 - May have nightmares about school

HIGH SCHOOL

- Struggled as a child with reading and spelling
- Reading is laborious and slow
- Limited written vocabulary
 - Verbal skills may be quite impressive while it does not match their written capability
 - Speaking vocabulary may be less than listening vocabulary
- Difficulty in learning a foreign language
- Poor grades in many classes
- Sacrifices social life for studying
- Avoids reading aloud
- Rarely reads for pleasure

ADULTS

All of the above, plus:

- Slow reader
- Terrible speller
- Difficulty putting thoughts onto paper
 - Dreads writing memos or letters
- Still has difficulty with right versus left
- Rarely responds quickly in conversation
- Avoids saying words that they struggle mispronouncing, trips over words or parts of words
- Reading makes them really tired
- Rote tasks are challenging