DYSLEXIA BASICS

What Parents and Educators Can Do

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH READING CLINIC

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Dyslexia Basics

- Dys = abnormal; not in a positive way (Greek)
- Lex = word (Greek)
- Misconceptions (e.g., see backwards, words jump on the page, colored lenses, marching, eye training)

- Core deficit is in language, specifically, the phonological system which causes difficulty matching <u>Speech sounds</u> to letter symbols.
- Math and oral language abilities normal or above

Dyslexia is...

• ...a **specific learning disability** that is **neurobiological** in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor **spelling** and **decoding** abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the **phonological** component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin...

This definition has been adopted by:

International Dyslexia Association

National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (US Department of Health & Human Services)

Dyslexia

- is not caused by a visual problem
- is not caused by lack of motivation
- occurs in all socioeconomic levels
- occurs slightly more in boys than girls
- may occur in spite of good classroom instruction
- is resistant to intervention
- may occur with other disorders (e.g., ADD)

A Non-Dyslexic Child's Journey in G1



Over time, speech sounds and graphemes processed simultaneously (automaticity). Result? No more mistakes!

A Dyslexic Child's Journey in G1 and On



A Dyslexic Child's Journey in G1 and On



What Can Teachers & Parents Do?

Teach Tapping for Reading & Spelling (at the syllable level)

Fully-Analyze Confused High Frequency Words

Sound like _____, but spells like _____.

Repeated Readings -<u>http://www.uurc.utah.edu/General/Forms-Charts.php</u>

What Can Teachers & Parents Do?

Teach Tapping for Reading & Spelling (at the syllable level)



shrimp; black vs. back; stick vs. sick; quite vs. quit; supplant

What Can Teachers & Parents Do?

Fully-Analyze Confused High Frequency Words

Write 1 Confused High Frequency Word (e.g., said)

- Count letters; count phonemes.
- Make Elkonin Boxes for phonemes.
- Tap to identify letters for sounds & write in boxes.
- Re-analyze as needed.

Practice 2-2-2 with that word.

What Can a Parent Do at Home?

Home Word Charts -

http://www.uurc.utah.edu/General/HomeWord.php

Repeated Readings -<u>http://www.uurc.utah.edu/General/Forms-Charts.php</u>

More, more, and more!
<u>http://www.uurc.utah.edu/Parents/ParentLinks.php</u>

University of Utah Reading Clinic 3rd Grade Word List Reading Chart

Student _Jean E. Buhrmaster		Tutor	Doris Turner		
Start Date 12/2/13	End Date	12/8/13		List # 2	

Read this word chart with your child every day.

1. Set a timer to count up. When your child starts reading aloud, start timer.

2. Mark your child's errors on the page-protected list with a wet-erase marker while he/she reads.

3. If your child hesitates for more than 3 seconds give him/her the word and count it as an error. If your student corrects the word on his/her own, do not count as an error.

4. After your child has read the entire list, put a dot and write the time on the graph (see example).

5. Count number of errors and write number in the box at the bottom of the page (see example).

6. Review the errors for that day; make sure your child says each word correctly.

Use this list until your child's times are below the bolded line, three times in a row, and with less than 5 errors.

Then, your tutor will give you the next list.

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4th Grade Word List #1

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Students Who Do Not Qualify for an IEP

For students with moderate reading difficulties who do not have IEPs, and who are unlikely to qualify for an IEP, a 504 Plan can be a life-saver!

A 504 Plan will allow accommodations that help a junior high/high school student to keep up with coursework and demonstrate optimum performance on standardized tests (e.g., ACT)

Teachers need to be in the 504 "loop" for the plan to work well. A 504 Plan is not "cheating!"

UURC Services

- Basic Assessment Battery \$50
- Intensive Assessment Battery \$100
 - after intervention

- Basic Intervention 45 minutes 2x week
- Intensive Intervention (Wilson) 75 minutes 2x week

Professional Development for Educators (basic, intensive intervention)

www.uurc.utah.edu



For More Information

The International Dyslexia Association

- 40 York Road
 4th Floor
 Baltimore, Maryland 21204
- www.interdys.org
- 1-800-ABCD123
- **410-296-0232**

