STOWELL Learning Center

FREE RESOURCE
FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Dyslexia Accommodations for the Classroom

Simple supports for reading, writing, spelling, and tests

Reading

- [ ] Increase the size of the print or print worksheets on blue paper.
- [ ] High interest, knowledge of the subject, and more meaningful context will help the dyslexic reader use his good comprehension skills to support his reading.
- [ ] Utilize Audio Books: www.learningally.org
  Student should listen and look at the text. Pointing under the text supports attention and development of reading vocabulary.
- [ ] Forewarn dyslexic learners when expected to read aloud in class.

Spelling

- [ ] Reduce spelling list but expect the student to get as many letters as they can on remaining words.
- [ ] Don't penalize for spelling errors on content assignments or tests.

Writing

- [ ] Allow student to dictate answers to a portion of the questions on worksheets.
- [ ] Provide accurate spelling on graphic organizers to help student feel more secure with writing.
- [ ] Handwriting Without Tears paper used properly will help improve handwriting and legibility. www.learningwithouttears.org
- [ ] Trace an infinity sign at the top of their page several times to integrate for writing.

Homework

- [ ] Provide specific amount of time to be spent on homework and grade only on portion completed.
- [ ] Note the critical parts of an assignment for student to complete.

Tests

- [ ] Take content area tests orally.
- [ ] Do not penalize for spelling errors on content area tests.

Organization/Study Skills

- [ ] Expect student to do their best to take notes and copy assignments into planner, but also provide a copy of lecture notes and assignment sheet.
- [ ] Record lectures.

Frustration / Self-Esteem

- [ ] Allow alternate ways of presenting what they know (example: a visual or video presentation instead of a written report).
- [ ] Cross Crawls help students integrate, energize, and refocus for learning.
- [ ] Provide/allow opportunities to move! Never take away recess.
- [ ] Acknowledge their efforts and successes no matter how small.

Accommodations and modifications can be a great support to students who struggle in school. And we should give students all the support we can! BUT... **It's also important to understand that accommodations and modifications are NOT a permanent solution. They should be a temporary support while the real problem is being corrected.**

The Learning Skills Continuum

Dyslexia and many other learning challenges are the result of weak underlying processing or learning skills that are not supporting the learner well enough. Brain research proves that these underlying skills can be developed: the brain can literally be retrained to process information more efficiently.

Smart children and adults with dyslexia or other reading challenges can and should become good readers. It takes pinpointing the underlying weaknesses, retraining the brain, and then remediating the reading and spelling skills.

Skill level		Schools and Tutoring Focus Here	We Work Here
CONTENT AREAS & HIGHER LEARNING	Refining and Applying Basic Academic Skills, Subject Areas, Social Success	✓	
BASIC ACADEMIC SKILLS	Reading, Spelling, Writing, Math, Language	✓	✓
EXECUTIVE FUNCTION	Reasoning, Strategizing, Organizing, Planning, Self-Monitoring of Attention and Behavior, Study Skills		✓
PROCESSING SKILLS	Memory, Attention Focus, Auditory and Visual Processing, Processing Speed, Language Processing		✓
CORE LEARNING SKILLS	Developmental Visual and Motor Skills, Internal Organization, Body and Attention Awareness and Control		✓

Getting to the Root of the Problem

Having a learning challenge is like doing a job at the top of a ladder when some of the rungs underneath are unstable. This diverts attention and causes everything to be harder and take longer.

By strengthening underlying skills (the rungs), attention, confidence, and success at the top of the ladder improve!

Get to the root of dyslexia

Talk with a learning specialist. Testing and programs are available in person or remotely, for children, teens, and adults.

Schedule a Free Call

(877) 774-0444