

DECODING DYSLEXIA

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF DYSLEXIA?

Signs of dyslexia in young, preschool children include talking later than expected, a slowness to add new words, difficulty rhyming, and trouble following multistep directions.

After a child begins school, the signs of dyslexia include:

- Difficulty learning the connection between letters and sounds
- Trouble learning to read, even after much effort
- Slow, choppy, inaccurate reading
- Guesses at words based on their shape or the context
- Can't sound out unknown words
- Skips or misreads prepositions
- Avoids reading out loud
- Remembers a word on one page, and forgets it on the next
- Often can't remember sight words
- Has trouble with spelling
- Confuses small words, such as "at" and "to"
- Letter reversals, such as "tip" for "pit"
- Word reversals, omissions or substitutions
- Extreme difficulty learning cursive handwriting
- Difficulty telling time with a clock with hands
- Struggles with remember math facts
- Learns best through meaning rather than rote memorization
- Trouble using specific words to name objects, frequently uses words like "stuff" and "that thing"
- Difficulty remembering simple sequences such as counting to 20, naming the days of the week, or reciting the alphabet
- Trouble understanding rhyming words, such as knowing that "fat" rhymes with "cat"
- Difficulty recognizing words that begin with the same sound (for example, that "bird," "baby," and "big" all start with the "b" sound)

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT DYSLEXIA IN YOUR CHILD?

A difficulty with some or most of these skills may indicate a learning disability. Not all students who have difficulties with these skills are dyslexic. But, 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 is the only way to confirm a diagnosis of suspected dyslexia.



CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES

DECODING DYSLEXIA CALIFORNIA www.DecodingDyslexiaCA.org

International Dyslexia Association - www.aida.org

 **Decoding Dyslexia CA**

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