



# RAISING DYSLEXIA AWARENESS

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY!

### Host a Dyslexia Simulation event

This can be a powerful way to share the dyslexia experience with others. Dyslexia Simulation kits are designed to help individuals gain a better understanding of (and empathy for) those children and adults who struggle with dyslexia.

**Where:** School, PTA Meeting, Library, Community Center, College Classroom, Parent Support Group meeting, Conference Workshop or Church.

(Note: If you partner with a school district or PTA, you can probably hold your event at a school site with no or minimal cost to cover custodian.)

**Target Audience:** School Staff, Educators, Parents, Family Members, Teaching Credential Candidates, Children, Educational Psychologists, Other Professionals and Community Members.

**How:** Kits can be purchased through:

Dyslexia Training Institute

<http://www.dyslexiatraininginstitute.org/simulation-kit.html>

Northern CA Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (NCBIDA)

<http://dyslexia-ncbida.org/simulations-kit/>

Check with your [DDCA Regional Leader](#) to see if they already own a dyslexia simulation kit or if other DDCA members in your area are willing to contribute to purchasing a kit.

If you are in the SF Bay Area, NCBIDA does offer a few free Dyslexia Simulations a year. Contact them at [office@dyslexia-ncbida.org](mailto:office@dyslexia-ncbida.org) to see if you may qualify for a free dyslexia simulation.

If you are in the San Diego area, Dyslexia Training Institute offers 2 free simulations a year. Contact them at [dyslexiaspec@gmail.com](mailto:dyslexiaspec@gmail.com).



# RAISING DYSLEXIA AWARENESS

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY!

### Host a Dyslexia Book Display

This is a great way to encourage others to read up on dyslexia. It also provides parents with helpful books on explaining dyslexia to a child. This is a great venue to garner free advertising about local DDCA Parent Support groups and the DDCA grassroots movement.

**Where:** Local Libraries, School Libraries and Bookstores.

**Target Audience:** Community Members, School Staff, Educators, Parents, Family Members, Children.

**How:** Download the DDCA Suggested Book list [HERE](#) to bring with you and contact your local library, school, or bookstore regarding their interest in hosting a visual display to increase dyslexia awareness. Discuss why raising dyslexia awareness is important to you and the community. Inquire about the type and size of space available. Offer to help select books for display.

Consider contacting authors to see if there is interest in a book signing event. Takeaway bookmarks listing a sampling of dyslexia books & online resources on dyslexia can be helpful. Ask if a poster can be created on dyslexia awareness facts or if a DDCA poster [HERE](#) and a DDCA flyer [HERE](#) can be made available.

Consider including your local International Dyslexia Association (IDA) branch as well. Find your local IDA branch [HERE](#).



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## MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY!

### Host a Dyslexia Movie Event

This is a great social event and a way to share some of the documentaries available on dyslexia. It can serve as a good way to generate Q&A discussion at the end of the movie.

**Where:** Local Libraries, Schools, PTA events, DDCA Parent Support Groups and Community Centers.

(Note: If you partner with school district or PTA, you can probably hold your event at a school site with no or minimal cost to cover custodian.)

**Target Audience:** Community Members, School Staff, Educators, Parents, Family Members, Children.

**How:** Refer to the DDCA Suggested Movie list below when you contact your local library, school, PTA or bookstore regarding their interest in hosting a movie event to increase dyslexia awareness. Discuss why raising dyslexia awareness is important to you and the community. Inquire about the type and size of space available. Offer to help advertise for the event through the DDCA network.

Consider contacting directors to see if there is interest in attending the event. Have a DDCA flyer [HERE](#) available at the event. Consider including your local IDA branch and School District Administrators to participate in audience Q&A.

#### Films on Dyslexia:

**Dislecksia – The Movie** | [www.dislecksiamovie.com](http://www.dislecksiamovie.com)

**Embracing Dyslexia** | [www.embracingdyslexia.com](http://www.embracingdyslexia.com) (free online video)

**Journey into Dyslexia** | [www.hbo.com/documentaries/journey-into-dyslexia](http://www.hbo.com/documentaries/journey-into-dyslexia)

**The Big Picture: Rethinking Dyslexia** | [www.thebigpicturemovie.com](http://www.thebigpicturemovie.com)

(Check with movie terms/policy regarding viewing rights.)



# RAISING DYSLEXIA AWARENESS

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY!**

## Contact your State or U.S. Legislator

Share your family's story with your CA and U.S. Legislator and encourage them to support DDCA's goals and initiatives. Encourage your U.S. Representative to join the [Bipartisan Congressional Dyslexia Caucus](#).

**How:** Find your State and Federal Legislators:

Your State Legislators:

[http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators\\_and\\_districts/legislators/your\\_legislator.html](http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your_legislator.html)

Your U.S. Representative:

<http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

Your U.S. Senator:

<http://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/>

Write down your family's story. Click [HERE](#) for tips! Send a letter and/or email to your local CA legislators, share your personal story and ask them to support [our goals](#).

A Sample letter for writing your family story can be found [HERE](#).

Share this information with 3 others and ask that they get involved in this movement also!



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## Speak Up!

### Speak at your school board or CAC meeting:

Address the School Board and/or CAC meeting during public comment period - usually limited to 3 minutes, but check their published practice.

**How:** Review videos of other DDCA parents/guardians who have given [public comment speeches](#). Consider using a template [HERE](#) to start your speech writing.

- Share the [CA PTA Dyslexia Resolution](#) that was adopted on May 7, 2016.
- Share the [U.S. Department of Education's](#) guidance dated October 23, 2015 on using the terms dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia.
- Share [Assembly Bill 1369](#) (Frazier - D) that was signed into law on October 8, 2015

### Share your thoughts with CA Department of Education (CDE):

As a result of AB 1369 being signed into law on October 8, 2015, the CDE has formed a Dyslexia Work Group to draft dyslexia program guidelines for CA. Please see this [link](#) for more information on the status of these guidelines. The CDE has created an email address [dyslexia@cde.ca.gov](mailto:dyslexia@cde.ca.gov) for public comments and questions for the Dyslexia Work Group.

This is your opportunity to share your comments/questions about dyslexia and the guidelines with the CDE!