



# Dyslexia





*weather?*

**whether?**

# **COPING WITH DYSLEXIA**

**saw**  
*was*

*their*  
**or**  
*there?*

# History

- People have always had dyslexia. It was the Victorians that first recognised its symptoms. They called it "Word Blindness". Noticing children with good intelligence levels, were below average at reading and writing.
- In the 1920s the pioneer of dyslexia friendly teaching methods Samuel Orton. Started research into ways to teach dyslexic children. Developing the use of [multi-sensory learning](#) techniques.
- During the 1960s - 1970s much more research was done into dyslexia. Support began to be introduced for dyslexic children in schools. The "British Dyslexia Association" was formed in 1972.
- It was not until 2010 that dyslexia was included in the U.K Equality Act. This recognised dyslexia as a protected disability. Ensuring that dyslexic people can not be discriminated against, in education or in the workplace. Instead legally, reasonable adjustments would have to be made.

# Dys – what – ia?



## Dyslexia

### Difficulties with processing

1. Mixes up words and sounds. "beddy tear for "teddy bear".
2. Struggles to find rhyming words "the cat sat on the .....".
3. Finds it hard to say the alphabet in the right order.



## Dysgraphia

### Difficulties with writing

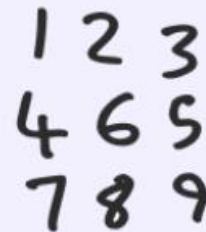
1. Writes letters the wrong way round: "b instead of d".
2. Uses upper case letters when not needed: "wAtEr".
3. Spells words how they sound: "night becomes nite".



## Dyspraxia

### Difficulties with co-ordination

1. Difficulty stacking bricks.
2. Handwriting and drawings appear scribbled.
3. Avoids joining in because they may mess something up.



## Dyscalculia

### Difficulties with numbers

1. Forgets the names of numbers when shown them.
2. Mixes up the meaning of symbols: (- + x) " 1+1 they can read as 1-1".
3. Struggles to understand that 6 can be made from 5 + 1 or 3 + 3.

# Famous people with Dyslexia



# Some signs of dyslexia



Writes letters the wrong way round: "b instead of d".



Spells the same word wrong, in different ways: "dog, dgo, doog, bog".



Uses upper case letters when not needed: "wAtEr".



Missing out letters in words or words in sentences. "t\_ee"



Not writing in a straight line / scribbled hand writing.



Finds it hard to write letters by hearing instructions: "Write the letter A".

## Ways to help

- Break down tasks into smaller chunks
- Give short direct instructions, one at a time. Ask them to repeat them back to you.
- Read, read, read – reading to your child is the single most important thing you can do.
- Find books they enjoy, chat about what they liked and find other books that are similar.
- If your child is reluctant to read, hear them little and often. Take turns doing a line each. Build their confidence re-reading familiar books.
- Be patient when hearing them read, do not jump in and praise the effort they are making.
- Using a piece of card under the line they are reading may help.



# Support in school

- Children do not need a diagnosis to receive support at Rainbow Forge but some secondary schools do recommend a diagnosis.
- Children ages over 7 years old can complete a screening tool which shows us if they show signs of dyslexia, we can use this alongside signs the teacher notices to provide extra support so that children make good progress in reading and writing.
- We can provide catch up and keep up interventions such as extra phonics, 1:1 reading and access to Nessy online.
- Teachers can see if your child benefits from a coloured overlay or window reading card (which blocks out other text on the page so the child can concentrate).
- We can help your child learn organisational techniques such bullet point lists and visual timetables.
- We give simple instructions and break learning down into manageable chunks.



## Further advice and links

- <https://www.dyslexicmum.co.uk/dyslexia-blog>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/dyslexia/>
- <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/>
- <https://www.whiterosedyslexia.co.uk/>