

# Signs of Dyslexia

If your child has 3 or more of the following signs of dyslexia, and a close relative with dyslexia, your child could be dyslexic.

## Signs of Dyslexia in Young Children

- Trouble with concepts of time.
- Unable to follow 2 or 3-step directions.
- Learn to talk later than other children their age
- Difficulty learning the names of shapes and colors
- Difficulty learning letter names and sounds
- Reversal of syllables and phonemes (letter sounds) within a word.
- Unable to recognize or produce rhymes.
- Early stuttering
- Cannot sequence rote memory concepts such as days of the week, months of the year, alphabet, and numbers.
- Trouble recognizing letters in words or even their names.
- Delays with fine motor skills like tying shoes, coloring and writing

*Dyslexia in preschoolers is hard to diagnose because many of its symptoms are developmentally common for all preschoolers. The more symptoms that are present, and the longer they persist, the more likely it is that your child may need some help. Dyslexia is marked by a combination of signs and a lack of progress over time.*

## Signs of Dyslexia In Elementary School

- slow, inaccurate reading
- uses context clues rather than sounding words out
- skips or misreads little words (at, to, of)
- poor spelling – very phonetic
- trouble telling time on a clock with hands
- difficulty expressing self
- inattentiveness, distractibility
- slow and messy handwriting – also called dysgraphia
- letter and number reversals after first grade
- trouble memorizing math facts
- hesitant speech; difficulty finding the right words to express self
- extremely messy bedroom, backpack or desk
- dreads going to school

## Signs of Dyslexia In Adolescence and Adulthood

*All of the above signs plus:*

- difficulty processing auditory information
- losing possessions; poor organizational skills – also referred to as executive function
- slow reading; low comprehension
- difficulty remembering the names of people and places
- difficulty organizing ideas to write a paper
- difficulty reading music
- unable to master a foreign language
- inability to recall numbers in proper sequence
- lowered self-esteem due to past frustrations and failure
- may drop out of high school