

Common Questions Parents have regarding Dyslexia



Does dyslexia only influence reading?

No, individuals with dyslexia may have problems in areas other than reading. Specifically, they may have difficulties expressing themselves in spoken as well as written formats. They may also have problems in mathematics (particularly remembering and retrieving math facts) or in learning a second language. They can also have social and/or emotional problems that are secondary to dyslexia.



Is dyslexia related to intelligence or motivation?

No, lack of intelligence or motivation does not cause dyslexia. Dyslexia can be accompanied by both high and low intelligence and strong and limited motivation.



Can Individuals Who Have Dyslexia Learn To Read?

Yes. Although early intervention is key, it is never too late for individuals with dyslexia to learn to read, process, and express information more efficiently. Research shows that programs utilizing Structured Literacy instructional techniques can help children and adults learn to read.



How Do People “Get” Dyslexia?

The causes for dyslexia are neurobiological and genetic. Chances are that one of the child’s parents, grandparents aunts, or uncles has dyslexia. Dyslexia is not a disease. With proper diagnosis, appropriate instruction, hard work, and support from family, teachers, friends, and others, individuals who have dyslexia can succeed in school and later as working adults



Does dyslexia only occur in English speakers?

No. Dyslexia is found across the world. It knows no cultural, language, or socio-economic boundaries.

How many people are affected by dyslexia? How common is it?

Dyslexia is thought to be one of the most common language-based learning disabilities. It is the most common cause of reading, writing, and spelling difficulties. Of people with reading difficulties, 70-80% are likely to have some form of dyslexia.



What is the difference between a reading disability and dyslexia?

There may be no difference at all. Some children may miss an important window for the development of their reading skills, and if they have not fallen too far behind, with proper instruction can "catch up." However, dyslexia is due to differences in the brain, and it is lifelong. When you go to seek help for a "reading problem", depending on who does the diagnosis and in what context, you could walk away with a diagnosis of either dyslexia or reading disability for the very same behaviors or symptoms.



How can I start to get help and where do I go to get help?

Present concerns to your child's physician or teachers or find a professional who specializes in literacy.