Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a subset of the Specific Learning Disability classification in relation to reading, characterized by difficulties in accurate or fluent word recognition, decoding or spelling.

DSM-5 details

- Inaccurate or slow and effortful word reading (e.g., reads single words aloud incorrectly or slowly and hesitantly, frequently guesses words, has difficulty sounding out words.)
- Difficulty understanding the meaning of what is read (e.g., may read text accurately, but no understand sequence, inferences or relationships.)
- Difficulties with decoding or spelling (e.g., sounds out words incorrectly, may add, omit or substitute vowels or consonants.)

What Teachers Should Look For

- A persistent sense of anxiety associated with school.
- Avoids reading altogether.
- Avoids school. (Always asking to stay home.)
- A general challenge with attention and behavior.
- A false portrayal of reading skills.
- A struggle to express the written word.

What Teachers Should Say

- "I've heard you are really good at (athletics, art, acting)"
- "You are not alone! 15% of ALL people struggle with reading."
- "It does NOT define you or your intelligence, you are very smart!"
- "College is absolutely an option with dyslexia."

Skill Gaps

- Reading
- Fluency
- Decoding
- Spelling
- Comprehension

Resources

- Articles
  - Dyslexia in the classroom
- Videos
  - Dyslexia & the Brain - Understood.org
- Research
  - International Dyslexia Association
- Websites & Organizations
  - Made by Dyslexia

Others Who Have Achieved Success