



DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

An illustration of three children holding a large black sign with a brown border. The sign is held by a girl on the left with long blonde hair and glasses, wearing a red jacket and blue skirt; a boy in the center with brown hair, wearing a light blue shirt and tan pants; and a girl on the right with orange hair, wearing a green hoodie and black pants. The background is a red border with a white central area.

WHAT IS DYSLEXIA?

Dyslexia is a specific learning disability in reading. People with dyslexia have trouble reading accurately and fluently. They may also have trouble with reading comprehension, spelling and writing.

Source: www.understood.org



SIGNS OF DYSLEXIA

1. Mispronouncing familiar words
2. Doesn't recognize rhyming patterns like cat, bat, rat
3. A family history of reading and or spelling difficulties
4. Cannot sound out simple words like cat, map, tap
5. Complains about how hard reading is
6. Inability to sound out words
7. Avoids reading out loud
8. Pauses, hesitates, and/or uses lots of "um's" when speaking
9. Seems to need extra time to respond to questions
10. Difficulty remembering dates, names, telephone numbers, and random lists
11. Messy handwriting
12. Suffers extreme fatigue when reading
13. Struggles to finish tests on time
14. Poor spelling

A full list can be found at www.dyslexia.yale.edu



PEOPLE WITH DYSLEXIA MAY HAVE THESE STRENGTHS:

1. Curiosity
2. Larger vocabulary than typical for age
3. Talent for building and creating
4. Abstract thinking skills
5. Learning through meaning rather than memorization
6. Highly articulate when expressing ideas
7. Exceptional warmth and empathy
8. Thinks outside the box
9. See the “big picture”
10. Noticeably resilient and able to adapt
11. Creativity

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DYSLEXIA MYTHS

Myth # 1: it's a boy thing. Boys with dyslexia are more frequently identified in schools. Dyslexia affects both genders in nearly equal numbers.

Myth # 2: people with dyslexia read backwards, that's all. Dyslexia makes it challenging to break down words. Reversing letters isn't always a sign of dyslexia. People with dyslexia may have trouble with a number of skills including writing, spelling, speaking and socializing.

Myth # 3: people with dyslexia just need to try harder. The brain functions differently in people with dyslexia. Some traditional reading and language instruction may not work for them.

Myth # 4: dyslexia is a sign of low IQ. Dyslexia is not a sign of low intelligence. It occurs in children of all backgrounds and intelligence levels.

Myth #5: dyslexia is curable. Dyslexia is a brain-based condition and a lifelong challenge. *Early intervention & classroom accommodations* can have a significant impact on reading ability and academic achievement.

Information found at www.understood.org- 5 Common Myths about Dyslexia by Emily Lapkin



BOOKS ABOUT DYSLEXIA

Overcoming Dyslexia:

Sally Shaywitz, M.D.

The Dyslexia Empowerment Plan:

Ben Foss, MD

Wright's Law:

Peter W.D. Wright Pamela Darr Wright

The Dyslexic Advantage:

Brock L. Eide M.D. M.A.

Visit DecodingDyslexia.org for more resources



CHILDREN'S BOOKS WITH DYSLEXIC CHARACTERS

[Your Fantastic Elastic Brain](#) by: Joann Deak PhD.

[It's Called Dyslexia](#) by: Jennifer Moore-Mallinos

[Tom's Special Talent](#) by: Kate Gaynor

[The Alphabet War](#) by: Diane Burton Robb

[Thank You, Mr. Falker](#) by: Patricia Palacco

[Hank Zipzer Series](#) by: Henry Winkler

[Two Minute Drill](#) by: Mike Lupica

[My Name is Brain Brian](#) by: Jeanne Betancourt

[Fish In A Tree](#) by: Lynda Hunt

[Knees: The Mixed Up World of a Boy with Dyslexia](#) by: Vanita
Oelschlager

[The Wild Book](#) by: Margarita Engle

Book list found on www.theliteracynest.com additional books
can be found at www.decodingdyslexiaact.org



FAMOUS DYSLEXICS

Babe Ruth- Baseball Player

Muhammad Ali- Boxer

Albert Einstein- Theoretical Physicist

Steven Spielberg- Film Director

Vince Vaughn- Actor and Comedian

Tim Tebow- Football and Baseball
player

Henry Winkler- Actor, Director and
Author

Walt Disney- Creator of Disney

Tom Cruise- Actor



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT DYSLEXIA

Check out Decoding Dyslexia CT (DDCT) at:

www.decodingdyslexiaact.org

The Yale Center for Dyslexia and Creativity at:

<https://www.dyslexia.yale.edu>

International Dyslexia Association CT branch

<https://ct.dyslexiaida.org>

