

Early Warning Signs of Dyslexia

1. Delayed speech
2. Stuttering
3. Articulation issues such as difficulty with the physical act of using the tongue, jaw, teeth, lips, palate, and breath to create sound. By the age of 3, a child should be able to make consonant sounds for the letters P, M, H, W, and, B.
4. Enunciation issues. Difficulty pronouncing words clearly. They may mix up the sounds and syllables in long words.

Preschool and Kindergarten Warning Signs of Dyslexia

1. Trouble memorizing letters and sounds.
2. Difficulty naming colors, shapes, and or numbers.
3. Trouble with the correct order of the alphabet, days of the week, phone numbers, etc.
4. Difficulty following multi-step directions.
5. Difficulty with rhyming.
6. Directionality challenges-left/right, yesterday/tomorrow.
7. Difficulty learning to tie shoes.
8. Often late establishing a dominant hand (a child should have a dominant hand by the age of four).
9. A close relative has dyslexia. Dyslexia is hereditary. If one parent is dyslexic there is a 50% chance the child will be dyslexic and if both parents are dyslexic there is a 100% chance the child will be dyslexic.

Elementary and Middle School Warning Signs of Dyslexia

1. Directionality challenges past the end of first grade. (b/d, p,q)
2. Difficulty telling time.
3. Struggles with accurate and fluent word recognition which causes reading to be slow, choppy, and inaccurate.
4. May dread going to school or have anxiety. May complain of belly ache/headache.
5. Often skips prepositions and ignores suffixes.
6. Often can't retain high-frequency words, sight words, or homonyms(words that are spelled alike but have different meanings)
7. Poor spelling.
8. Poor decoding skills or the inability to sound out words.
9. May dread reading out loud.
10. Difficulty learning cursive and copying from a board or book.
11. Trouble memorizing math facts like the multiplication table.
12. May have difficulty finding the words they want when speaking.

High School Warning Signs of Dyslexia

1. All of the previously mentioned warning signs.
2. Unable to master a foreign language.
3. Difficulty reading printed music.
4. May struggles to remember the names of people and places.
5. Limited vocabulary.
6. Poor written expression with large discrepancies between verbal skills and written composition.
7. Reading takes a lot of effort and rereading several times may be needed for understanding.
8. Poor spelling and grammar usage.
9. Difficulty with notes taking.
10. Poor time management skills.
11. Trouble memorizing the sequence of steps in formulas.
12. Requires thought to determine right vs left.
13. Continues to flip letters and or numbers if sick, tired or stressed.

Family History and Adult Warning Signs of Dyslexia

1. May be smart, but are likely poor at spelling.
2. May have difficulty putting their thoughts on paper.
3. Will most likely say they didn't like school.
4. May not enjoy reading.
5. Reading may be slow and labored. May have to re-read to gain understanding.
6. Still have difficulty with right versus left.