

DYSLEXIA

Dyslexia is a broad term defining a learning disability that impairs a person's fluency or comprehension accuracy in being able to read, and can manifest itself as a difficulty with phonological decoding, orthographic coding, short term memory, and/or rapid naming.

Adult dyslexics may be able to read with good comprehension, but tend to read more slowly, and may perform more poorly at nonsense word reading and spelling.

In early primary school children, the signs and symptoms of dyslexia will be

- Difficulty learning the alphabet or letters order
- Difficulty with associating sounds with the letters that represent them
- Difficulty identifying rhyming words, or counting syllables in words
- Difficulty segmenting words into individual sounds, or blending sounds to make words
- Difficulty with word retrieval or naming problems
- Difficulty learning to decode written words
- difficulty distinguishing between similar sounds in words; mixing up sounds in polysyllabic words

There is no cure for dyslexia, but dyslexic individuals can learn to read and write with appropriate educational support. Early intervention is very helpful.