

COMMON SIGNS OF DYSLEXIA: 5TH - 8TH GRADE

The characteristics noted below are often associated with dyslexia if they are unexpected for the individual's age, educational level, or cognitive abilities. A qualified diagnostician can test a person to determine if he or she is truly dyslexic.

- Is usually reading below grade level.
- May reverse letter sequences - "soiled" for "solid," "left" for "felt."
- May be slow to discern and to learn prefixes, suffixes, root words, and other reading and spelling strategies.
- May have difficulty spelling; spells same word differently on the same page.
- May avoid reading aloud.
- May have trouble with word problems in math.
- May write with difficulty with illegible handwriting; pencil grip is awkward, fist-like or tight.
- May avoid writing.
- May have difficulty with written composition.
- May have slow or poor recall of facts.
- May have difficulty with comprehension.
- May have trouble with non-literal language (idioms, jokes, proverbs, slang).
- May have difficulty with planning, organizing and managing time, materials and tasks.

Sources:

- 1 *Basic Facts about Dyslexia: What Every Layperson Ought to Know* - © Copyright 1993, 2nd ed. 1998. The International Dyslexia Association, Baltimore, MD.
- 2 *Learning Disabilities: Information, Strategies, Resources* - © Copyright 2000. Coordinated Campaign for Learning Disabilities, a collaboration of leading U.S. non-profit learning disabilities organizations. Used with permission.