

Dyslexia: What you're seeing in Your High-Schooler

Do these situations describe your teen? Keep track of what you're seeing and talk to him about it. Together you can figure out next steps—including talking to teachers or your teen's doctor.

Doesn't Get the Joke

At home: Your teenager needs someone to explain punch lines, especially those that use puns or that have hidden meanings.

At school: Your teenager has trouble understanding proverbs, puns and idioms.

The issue: Dyslexia affects the ability to process all kinds of language. This makes understanding humor and other nonliteral language particularly tricky.

Has Trouble Expressing Ideas

At home: Your teenager stammers and can't seem to find the right word.

At school: Your teenager has difficulty sharing what he knows, supporting an argument or getting to the point.

The issue: Dyslexia affects the ability to find the right words, develop ideas and communicate them in a logical, organized way.

Lacks a Sense of Direction

At home: Your teenager still confuses left and right.

At school: Your teenager has trouble reading charts and graphs.

The issue: Kids with dyslexia often struggle with spatial concepts and related activities such as driving and navigation.

Struggles to Learn a Foreign Language

At home: Your teenager dreads the school's foreign language requirement and feels doomed by it.

At school: Your teenager guesses at the meaning of foreign words and their pronunciation.

The issue: The same issues that make it hard for kids with dyslexia to read and write in their native language make it even harder to understand a foreign language.

Understood for learning & attention issues

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