

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

Is your tween or teen struggling with situations like these? Keep track of what you see. Your observations are key when talking with doctors and teachers about how best to help your child.

Reads Very Slowly

At home: Your child takes a very long time to finish homework that requires reading.

At school: Your child avoids reading out loud in class.

The issue: Sounding out or “decoding” words is difficult with dyslexia, which slows down the reading process.

Often Can't Find the Right Word to Say

At home: Your child stammers and says “um” and other “filler words” a lot.

At school: Your child has difficulty saying the right word. He uses words that sound similar but have different meanings (such as “distinct” instead of “extinct”).

The issue: Dyslexia can make it hard to think of the precise word or to pronounce it correctly.

Struggles with Writing Assignments

At home: Your child spells the same word differently in the same essay.

At school: Your child has difficulty expressing ideas in an organized way and with proper spelling, grammar and punctuation.

The issue: Dyslexia affects children's ability to write and to proofread their work.

Struggles to Fit In

At home: Your child does not pick up on body language or learn from social blunders.

At school: Your child struggles to “fit in” with classmates or participate in-group projects.

The issue: Dyslexia can affect many aspects of communication, which can impact social skills.

Understood for learning & attention issues

For more tips and recourse, go to [understood.org](https://www.understood.org)