

44 MYTHS ABOUT DYSLEXIA DEBUNKED

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It is important to be aware of some of the popular misconceptions and myths surrounding dyslexia and language-based learning disability. We have highlighted some of the more common myths and provided the alternative understanding.

17 **Myth: Dyslexics are compensated for their lack of phonological ability by being gifted in the artistic/visual-spatial sphere.**

Fact: Systematic research and investigation has found little evidence to support this theory, comforting though it may be.

18 **Myth: People with dyslexia cannot read.**

Fact: Incorrect. Most children and adults with dyslexia are able to read, even if it is at a basic level. Children with dyslexia are likely to reach a certain point in reading ability with the inability to move beyond a 3rd-grade reading level. Despite being taught phonics, they will have extreme difficulty sounding out an unknown word. Spelling is one of the classic red flags alerting parents and teachers of a serious underlying problem. The children are unable to understand the basic code of the English language and cannot break down or reconstruct (with spelling) words using codes (letters).

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19 **Myth: Dyslexic children will never read well, so it's best to teach them to compensate.**

Fact: Individuals with dyslexia can become terrific readers with the appropriate intervention. It is important to test a child early in his/her school career in order to identify any problems and attempt to prevent major reading difficulties before they even start.

20 **Myth: Every child who struggles with reading is dyslexic.**

Fact: Dyslexia is the most common cause of difficulties with reading, but it is by no means the only cause. Dyslexia does not only cause difficulties in reading but also in spelling, speech, and memorisation. If a child is dyslexic, he will show other warning signs besides having trouble with reading.



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