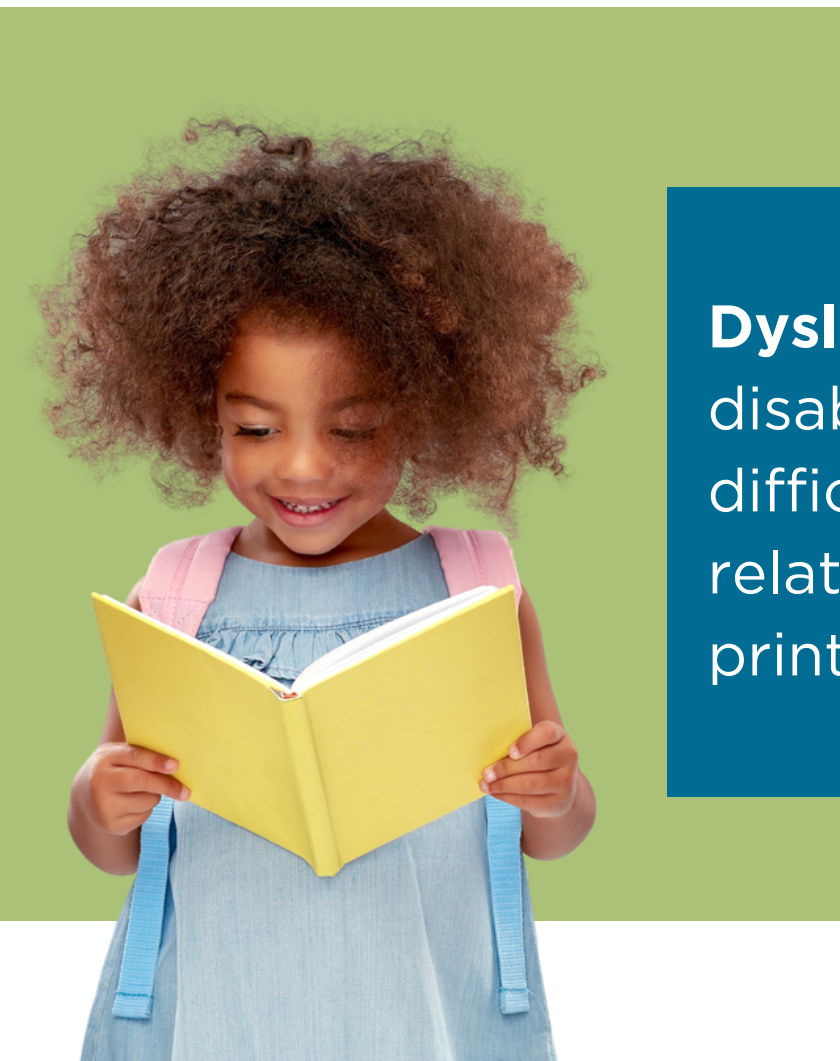


What is Dyslexia?

An Overview for Educators



Dyslexia is a type of learning disability characterized by difficulties establishing relationships between printed & spoken language.

Common Characteristics

Difficulties in:

- Learning letter-sound correspondences
- Identifying unique sounds in a word
- Blending individual sounds to read words
- Following and remembering directions
- Recalling names of people and places
- Remembering sequences
- Retrieving precise words
- Rhyming words



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Common Misconceptions

MYTH	FACT
Individuals with dyslexia see words in reverse.	Individuals with dyslexia may have difficulty storing and retrieving the correct letter sequence for a given word.
Individuals with dyslexia cannot learn to read.	Individuals with dyslexia can become skilled readers with instruction that combines: • Explicit, systematic phonics instruction featuring ◦ Opportunities to practice ◦ Immediate, specific feedback from a skilled reader to support word reading proficiency • Targeted automaticity at word- and connected-text level • Comprehension strategies • Word knowledge • World knowledge
Dyslexia is unique from disabilities served by special education and does not qualify a student for an Individualized Education Program (IEP).	Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that can qualify a child for special education. Depending on individual characteristics, a child with dyslexia may receive specially designed instruction under an IEP or may receive accommodations under a Section 504 plan.

Learn more:

- International Dyslexia Association: [Dyslexia in the Classroom: What Every Teacher Needs to Know](#)
- National Center on Improving Literacy: [Schools and Districts](#)
- Tennessee Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia: [Infographics & Infosheets](#)

