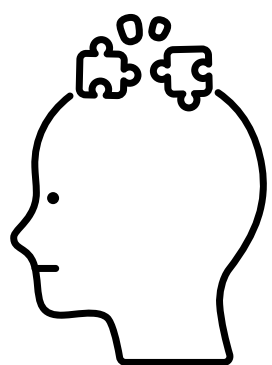


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MYTHS & FACTS

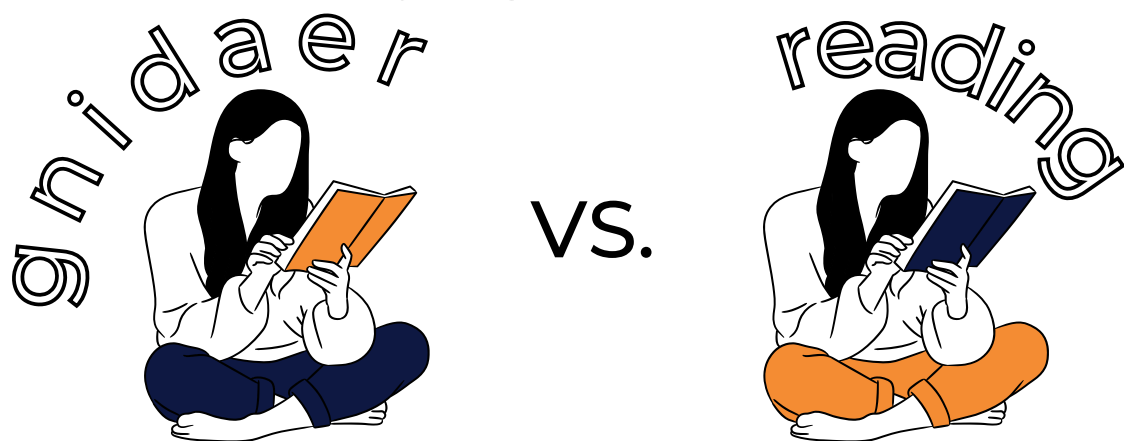
ABOUT DYSLEXIA



Dyslexia is a language-based learning disability that affects reading, writing, and spelling.

MYTHS

- Seeing or writing letters backwards is a primary sign of the condition.



- Vision problems cause dyslexia.



- Children can grow out of dyslexia and can just catch up on their own with enough time.

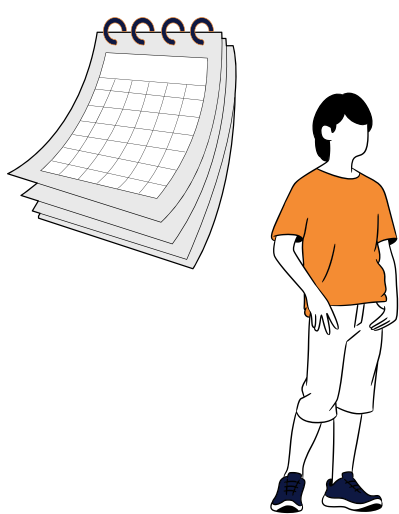


FACTS

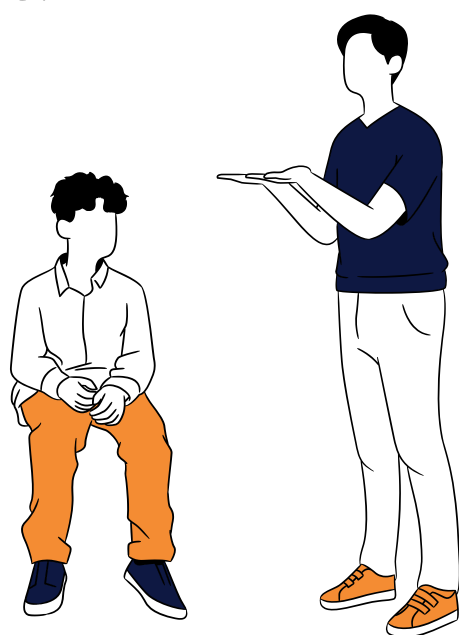
- Many young children reverse letters and it is relatively normal up until the end of 1st grade. Children with dyslexia reverse letters just as much as typical peers.
- Dyslexia is a language-based condition. Although some children with dyslexia do have difficulties with visual perception or processing, children with dyslexia have the same amount of eye and vision difficulties as other children.
- First graders who are poor readers will almost never acquire adequate reading skills by the end of elementary school without intervention.

MYTHS

- Two to three years of instruction is needed before identifying dyslexia or reading difficulties.



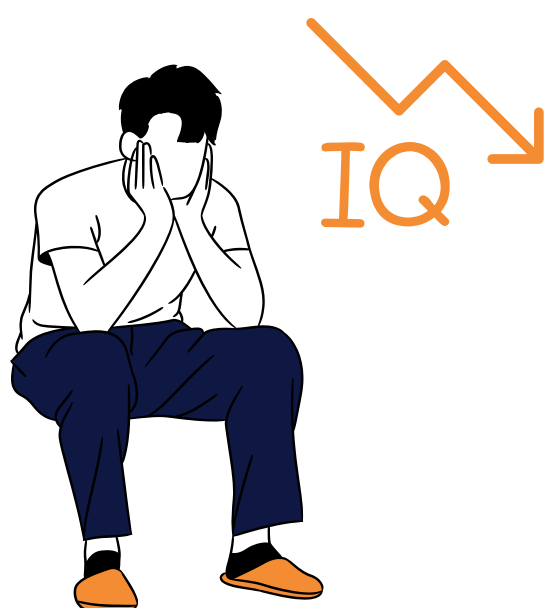
- Kindergarten and 1st grade teachers are well trained to detect early signs of dyslexia and reading difficulties.



- Schools and school districts cannot use the term dyslexia.



- Individuals with low IQ cannot have dyslexia.



FACTS

- There are key predictors of reading that can be detected from a very young age, as early as prekindergarten and kindergarten. These include phonological awareness, rapid naming, expressive and receptive vocabulary, letter-sound knowledge, and nonword repetition tasks.
- Most teachers unfortunately lack the appropriate training in the science of reading and dyslexia. However, more and more attention has been paid to this disparity and many states and schools are revamping their literacy curriculums to help identify children with the condition earlier on.
- The U.S. Department of Education issued a letter over 5 years ago reminding school districts there is no law stopping them from using the term and that districts should use the term “dyslexia” in IEPs, at IEP meetings, and in evaluations for determining special education services.
- Children with dyslexia have a wide variety of IQ levels. In fact, numerous research studies have found that there is no link between IQ and dyslexia or reading impairment.

MYTHS

- Individuals with dyslexia will never learn to read.



- Determining a dyslexic's learning style will help them learn how to read.



- Dyslexia is not real.



FACTS

- With ample amounts of evidence-based intervention, individuals with dyslexia can make significant gains in their reading skills, especially if this intervention is provided at a younger age.
- Learning styles are one of the biggest myths in education. While we know that individuals have different cognitive processing abilities, we also recognize that presenting material in one's preferred learning style or in one specific modality does not maximize learning benefit. In fact, children with dyslexia often benefit from a multisensory intervention.
- This is perhaps the most unfortunate myth that has been perpetuated by certain individuals. However, there is a tremendous body of scientific evidence over decades from numerous research institutions around the world that have established its validity as a true neurodevelopmental condition.

Source:

Matthew Pagirsky, PsyD - Director of Neuropsychology & Training
At Growing Minds Psychology
<https://www.growingmindsnyc.com/blog/mythbusters-dyslexia>