

dyslexia

Today you will:

Experience dyslexia

Find out what dyslexia is

Find out how to get a diagnosis

Learn an effective way to teach dyslexics

Nancy Blaskewicz
nanblask@aol.com

One day John and Bob went for a walk. "What would you like to do today," Bob asked John. "I don't know," John replied. "What would you like to do?" I think I might like watching a movie on TV, especially if we can have some popcorn. "Wow," said John. "Popcorn! What a great idea! Let's check the cupboard to see if my mother bought some the last time she went shopping. "Look," he yelled, "a full box and it's it's Orville Redenbacher! My favorite!" "Great!" Bob shouted, "Let's cook it in the microwave and see how it turns out."



What is dyslexia?

Myths

1. Dyslexia isn't seeing words backwards.
2. Dyslexia isn't caused by poor eyesight.
3. Dyslexia isn't a developmental disability.
4. Dyslexia isn't the result of an injury.
5. Dyslexia isn't curable.

Truths

1. Research provides scientific evidence that dyslexia is neurobiological.
2. One out of 20 people are dyslexic.
3. Dyslexia is present in all economic backgrounds and intellectual levels.
4. Dyslexic people are often talented in areas that don't require strong language skills.
5. Dyslexia is treatable.

"Dyslexia is specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge."

International Dyslexia Association definition

Greek derivative

dys+lex

difficulty with+to speak (having to do with words)

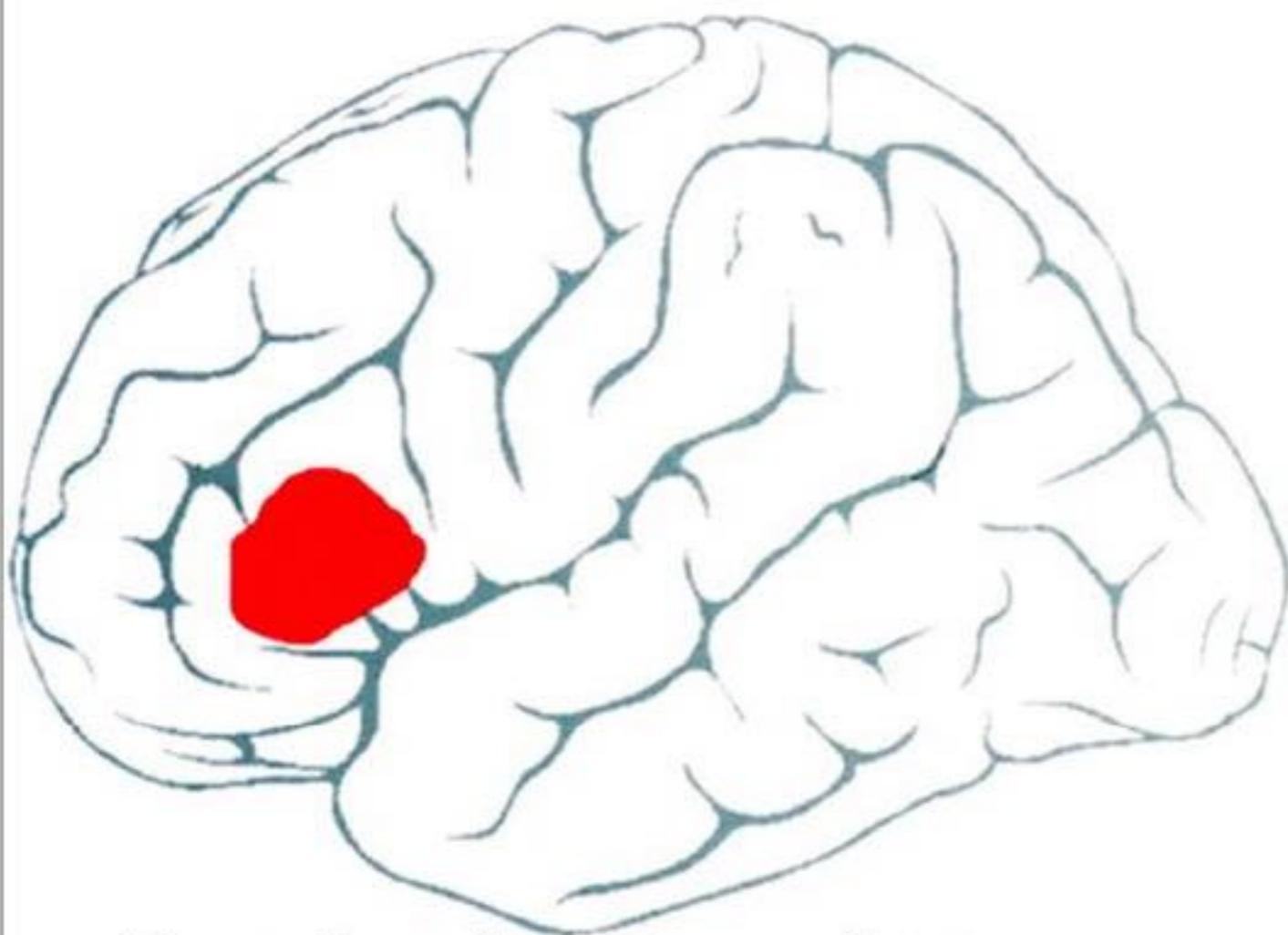
Dyslexia is a language-based learning disability.

"Children with dyslexia have trouble processing language rather than visual information. They may enjoy drawing pictures, playing video games and doing other things that involve interpreting what the eyes see. Children with dyslexia struggle with connecting letters they see to the sounds that are associated with those letters."

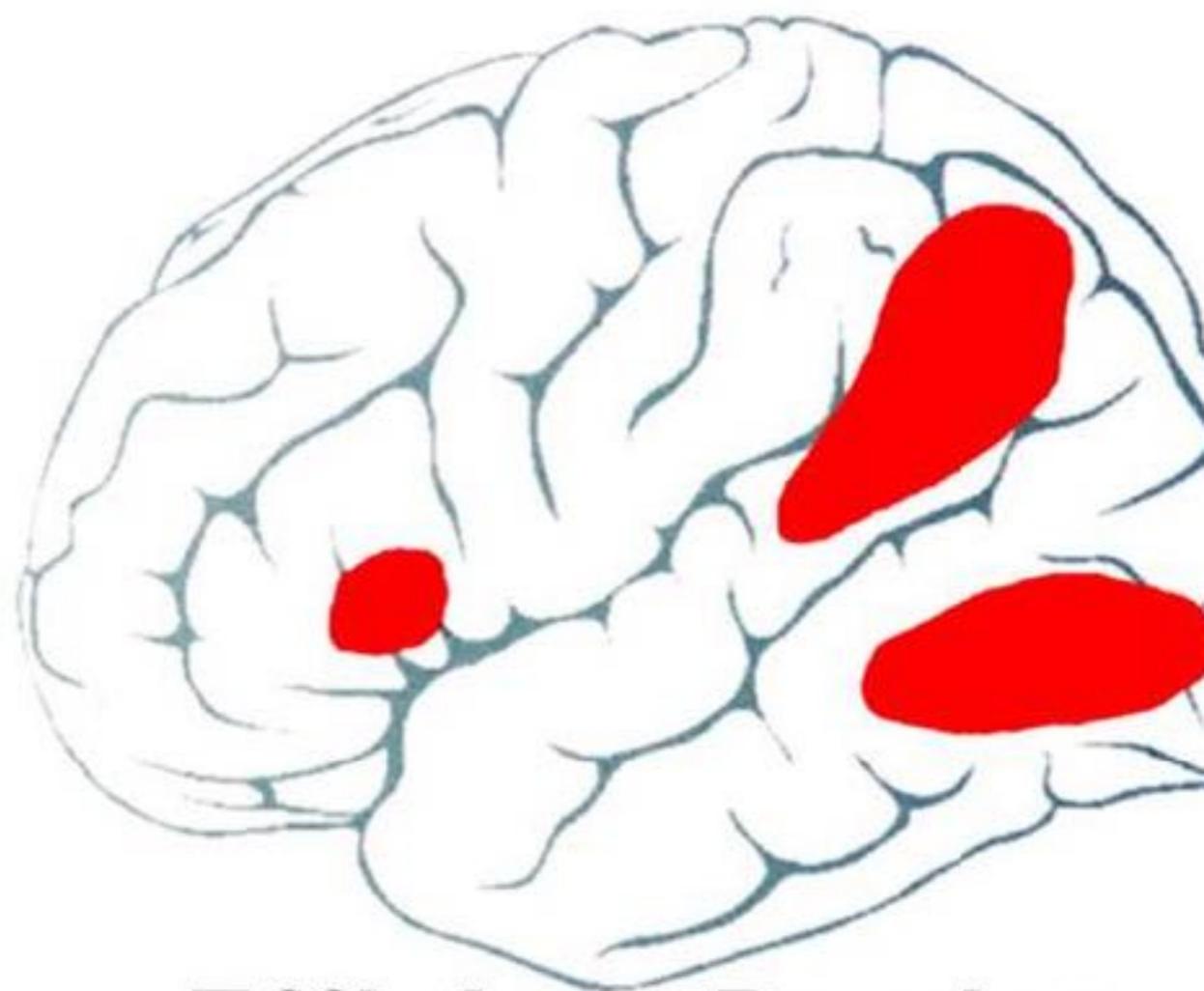
Guenivere Eden is a neuroscientist who directs the Center for the Study of Learning at Georgetown University Medical Center.

Picture of the a dyslexic reader's brain

Reading



Dyslexic Reader



Efficient Reader

How do you know it's
dyslexia and how do I get
diagnosed?

Dyslexia

With Appropriate Support
These Children Can Shine

Reading



- Slow or unable to learn to read
- Difficulty decoding alphabet symbols
- Skips words and lines in text
- Misreads words
- Lacks expression when reading aloud
- Ignores punctuation marks
- Reads without comprehension
- Avoids reading aloud in public

Spelling



- Can't remember how words look
- Difficulty hearing sounds
- Confuses letters and their sounds

Writing



- Difficulty controlling a pen or pencil
- Slower than others to complete written tasks
- Spelling difficulties cause limited written work
- Can't organise their thoughts to write

Speaking



- Slow to talk
- Mixes up sounds and mispronounces words
- Can't find the right word
- Difficulty with rhyming words

Listening



- Difficulty with multiple instructions
- Constantly asking to check their understanding
- Loses focus if people talk too long
- Finds background noise distracting

Behaviour



- May lack self confidence
- Can act out, misbehave or withdraw
- Refuses to go to school and do homework

Memory



- Facts and figures
- Letter combinations and words
- Times tables
- Math and Science processes
- Peoples names
- How people look

Direction



- Gets lost easily
- Confuses left and right
- Doesn't like analogue clocks

Intelligence



- Of average or above average intelligence
- May be highly intelligent or gifted in certain areas

Speed



- Slower to complete reading and writing tasks
- Slower to learn systems and processes
- Requires more time to complete tests and exams

Visual Processing



- Words misbehave on the page
- Finds black text on white paper hard to read
- Experiences eye strain and headaches
- Slow to copy notes and read accurately

Planning



- Loses track of time
- Is too messy or really neat
- Difficulty organising work

Symptoms

1. Poor spelling
2. Delayed speech
3. Difficulty learning the names of the letters or sounds of the alphabet
4. Difficulty writing the alphabet in order.
5. Trouble articulating R's (wed for red) and L's, M's and N's in 2nd and 3rd grade.
6. Mixing up multi-syllabic words.
7. Trouble retrieving words when talking. (not a senior moment)
8. Doesn't remember words from previous page.
9. Slow or choppy reading.
10. A close relative with dyslexia.

Sue Barton website *

www.brightsolutions.us

view video:[symptoms and solutions](#)

NationalDyslexiaAssociation

www.dyslexia.ida.org

American Dyslexia Association

www.understood.org

I've checked the list of symptoms, **now what?**

Talk to your child's teacher and school psychologist.

Ask the teacher to make modifications now.

Get a referral from your pediatrician to see a neuropsychologist.

Call your local Intermediate Unit for help.

See if there's a local dyslexia center in your area.

classroom accommodations

- Provide step by step explicit instruction
- Use oral tests or ask students to make a project to show achievement

Use audio books (LearningAlly, Audible, U-Tube)

- Use C-Pen Reader, Scanmaker or other text to read devices.
- Teach cursive

Fonts that are easier for Dyslexics

This is an example of Comic Sans.

This is an
example of
the Open Dyslexic
Typeface

This is an example of
Times Roman

b p d q

TimesNewRoman

b p d q

Comic Sans

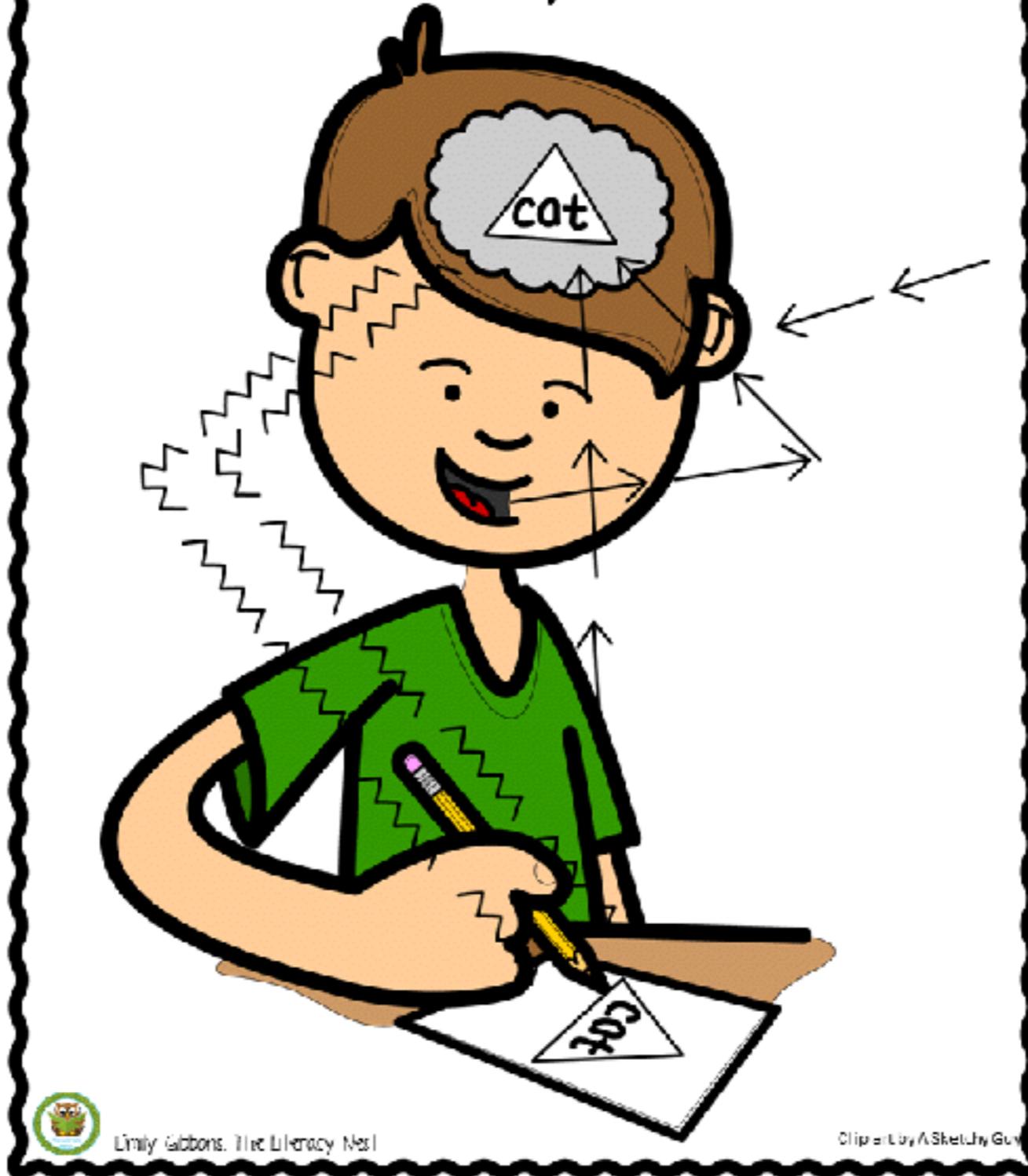
Is there a best method for teaching a dyslexic student?

Instruction should be:

- structured
- sequential-sounds, syllables, words, sentences
- cumulative-new skill builds on learned skills
- multisensory-visual, auditory, and kinesthetic modalities are happening simultaneously.
- cognitive-history of language is taught

The Language Triangle

Visual, Auditory, Kinesthetic



Emily Gibbons. The Literacy Nest

Clip art by A Sketchy Guy

from Literacy Nest-Emily Gibbons.

Multisensory Approaches

Barton Reading and Spelling System

Lindamood Bell

Orton Gillingham

Slingerland Multisensory Approach

Wilson Reading System

According to Marilyn Zecher, M.A., CALT:

It is difficult for children with dyslexia to learn to read because their brains associate sounds and letter combinations inefficently. Cursive helps with the decoding process because it integrates hand- eye coordination, fine motor skills and other brain and memory functions.

Some MRI studies show that there is a stronger association for learning and memory when the hands are involved.

Advantages of **cursive**:

emphasizes left to right directionality

reduces reversal occurrences

letters all start on the same line

encourages spacing between words

Neuroplasticity

the ability of the brain to change with learning

the lifelong ability of the brain to reorganize neural pathways based on new experiences

Repetition

the brain's neural networks respond in a pattern that is established by past experience

the more often a specific pattern is fired in response to a stimulus, the more firm a nerve assemble becomes.

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