

# Dyslexia Program

## AWARENESS FOR PARENTS

### What Is Dyslexia?

The current definition of dyslexia from the International Dyslexia Association:

Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurological 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.

### Reading/Spelling Characteristics of Dyslexia

- Difficulty reading words in isolation
- Difficulty accurately decoding unfamiliar words
- Difficulty with oral reading (slow, inaccurate, or labored)
- Difficulty spelling

*The Dyslexia Handbook—Revised 2014*

### Reinforcing Reading Skills at Home

- Play phonological awareness games
- Help your child master the alphabet letters and sounds
- Read to your child to model fluency skills
- Encourage your child to read books aloud
- Discuss interesting aspects of books
- Listen to recorded stories and books
- Practice spelling words using magnetic letters
- Introduce new vocabulary words in books
- Subscribe to magazines that interest your child

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#### School District/Charter School Requirements

##### Texas Education Code §38.003:

- Students enrolling in public schools shall be tested for dyslexia at appropriate times.
- The board of trustees of each school district or charter school shall provide for the treatment (i.e., instruction) of any student determined to have dyslexia.

#### Resources

- International Dyslexia Association  
[www.interdys.org](http://www.interdys.org)
- Texas Dyslexia Hotline  
1.800.232.3030
- *The Dyslexia Handbook—Revised 2014*  
[www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)

#### For assistance in the area of dyslexia, please contact

Windy Clark, Ed.D.—Dyslexia Specialist  
Region 4 Education Service Center

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