

Dyslexia Tips: Materials

Student

Assistive Technology

Why - Allows dyslexic learners to confidently communicate without worrying about spelling, processing time, etc.

Suggestions

- Speech-to-text
- Grammarly
- Audible

Access to Resources

Why - Allows dyslexics to demonstrate their understanding without stressing over spelling, adding/subtracting, etc.

Suggestions

- Calculator
- Alphabet
- Spelling help

Drawing While Learning

Why - Drawing can help students better comprehend, process, and retain what they are learning.

Notes

- Establish with student it is a privilege
- Limit to no messy materials

Water Bottle at Desk

Why - Drinking water improves memory and attention as well as keeping students hydrated.

Multi-Sensory

Fidgets

Why - Provides students a means to self-regulate without distracting peers. Fidgets also add sensory stimulation, assisting students with learning and retention of information.



Suggestions/Ex.

- Stress balls
- Tangle Fidgets
- Fidget Cube
- Sensory Velcro

Suggestions

- Non-bubble gum
- Not extremely easy to blow/pop

Why - Gum can help dyslexics focus while processing information as well as promoting well-being and work performance.



Chewing Gum

Classroom

Audio Books

Why - Audio books allow dyslexics to quickly and accurately comprehend information without worrying about making a mistake.

Providers

- Audible
- Libby
- Hoopla
- Overdrive

Flexible Seating

Why - Many dyslexic students, especially those with ADHD, struggle to concentrate and sit still. Allowing non-disruptive movement can increase attention span and focus.

Suggestions

- Wiggle stools
- Cushions
- Standing
- Yoga Balls

Resources on the Board

Why - Placing informational charts and posters on the board helps dyslexic students easily access resources they need without disturbing the class or teacher.

Examples

- Vowels v. consonants
- Suffixes
- The alphabet
- Basic times tables

Books with Dyslexic Characters

Suggested Books

- Thank you, Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco
- Tom's Special Talent by Kate Gaynor
- The Alphabet War by Diane Burton Robb
- Ben & Emma's Big Hit by Gavin Newsom

Graphic Novels

Why - Graphic novels are great because they chunk the story into sections and make reading more exciting. Dyslexics can use the pictures as context clues for what they are reading.

Reading Guides

What - A tool used to cover sections of a page while reading.

Why - Helpful in isolating a single line which allows ones brain to focus on only that line.

Suggestion - Easy tools to implement this include index cards or half sheets of paper.

White Board Set

Why - Some dyslexics experience anxiety when asked to do a problem on the board in front of the class. Instead, give each student a white board, and have each perform the problem individually and hold up their answers. This allows students to make mistakes without everyone watching.

Area to Calm Down/Break

Why - A break area can help students with self regulation and is another means for them to advocate for themselves.

Word Games

Why - Not only are games more fun and engaging, but can make it easier for dyslexics to remember what they are learning. Examples include using scrabble tiles or anagrams to work on words with the student.

Math Materials

Why - Counters, cubes, ones, tens, & hundreds blocks make math tangible. Making math visual and interactive helps dyslexics learn the concepts.