



Dyslexia Awareness Week 2015

Making Sense of Dyslexia... in Education

October 5-11

Welcome!

Thank you for taking part in Dyslexia Awareness Week 2015 (October 5-11). We hope that together you will help us in making this year's event one to remember.

The theme for 2015 is "Making Sense of Dyslexia..." and during the week we aim to explore the different aspects of dyslexia and help raise awareness and understanding, not just in the UK, but the whole world.

One in ten of the UK population is estimated to be dyslexic, meaning that in a classroom of 30, there would be around three children with dyslexia. This means that every teacher is a teacher of dyslexic children, whether they are six years old and just starting out or 16 and wondering what to do next.

The British Dyslexia Association are big advocates of early identification and are campaigning for dyslexia awareness to be a compulsory part of initial teacher training. If this were to happen, we believe teachers would feel empowered and enabled to identify and support students with dyslexia from a young enough age that the right coping strategies can be put in place.

By supporting Dyslexia Awareness Week, you are helping the British Dyslexia Association in our aim to promote a dyslexia friendly society and better understanding among all. If you have any events planned during the week, please let us know and we look forward to hearing about what you get up to!

Thank you.

BDA Dyslexia Awareness Week Team (media@bdadyslexia.org.uk)

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What is dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a learning difference, a combination of strengths and weaknesses which affect the learning process in reading, spelling, writing and sometimes numeracy.

People with dyslexia may also have accompanying weaknesses in short term memory, sequencing and the speed at which they process information. These are skills that everyone needs if they are to learn and work effectively.



Indications of dyslexia in school-age children.

- Difficulties with verbal memory: repeating back information.
- Finds it difficult to pick up nursery rhymes and learn the times tables.
- Difficulty with direction, tying shoe laces, remembering days of the week.
- Has a poor standard of written work compared with oral ability.
- Spells a word several different ways in one piece of writing.
- Avoids reading and may use other strategies such as memorising.
- No expression in reading and comprehension can be poor.
- Is hesitant and laboured in reading.

- Misses out words when reading, or adds extra words.
- Shows confusion with number order, e.g. units, tens, hundreds
- Has difficulty in learning to tell the time.
- Shows poor time keeping and general awareness.
- Employs work avoidance tactics, such as sharpening pencils and looking for books.
- Is easily distracted.
- Is excessively tired due to amount of concentration and effort required.

More information on dyslexia including a collection of frequently asked questions can be found at www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

Practical ideas for supporting pupils in the classroom.

Supporting Speaking and Listening.

Dyslexic pupils sometimes can have difficulties in speaking, especially under pressure; or in listening, when following a string of verbal instructions, and their attention may wander. However, some dyslexics have very good oral ability and it is an opportunity for them to 'shine' if they are happy to lead peer discussions, feedback to the group, support younger peers, and to respond to questions without the demands of written recording.

Simple advice would be to:

1. Address pupil by name to 'cue-in' attention.
2. Limit your instructions to one or two at a time.
3. Speak in short, simple sentences.
4. Ask pupil to repeat instructions back to you to ensure they have heard correctly.
5. Ask pupil to close their eyes and picture what you are asking them to do as you speak.
6. Praise them when they have remembered.

7. Maintain focus and attention and concentration by simple verbal or picture prompts.
8. Support organisational, sequencing skills with techniques such as picture cards and using specific sequencing language such as before, after, next; using timelines / visual prompts for structure of lesson.

The Rose Report (5.25) highlights other problems in this area.

'There is strong evidence of overlap between specific language impairment and dyslexia: between 35 and 40% of children with reading problems have been reported to have language impairment and vice versa.'

This extract is taken from the 'Dyslexia in Education: A Guide for Teachers and Teaching Assistants' book and is available for purchase from the B.D.A. Store.

**For information on Quality
Mark and achieving
Dyslexia Friendly Schools
status, contact
qualitymark@bdadyslexia.org.uk**

Story Time.

This year we will be asking Local Dyslexia Associations, bookshops, libraries, schools and community centres to host Story Time sessions that encourage children, families and adults to discover new books that they like and get involved and excited in reading.

During these sessions, the hosts would have special guests such as local authors to read from their book to the audience and encourage interaction in the form of questions and answers. These sessions would feature books that are suitable for people with dyslexia as well as potentially authors with dyslexia.

The books could be aimed at children or adults and be any genre including fiction and non-fiction.

If you are organising a Story Time event, please let us know at media@bdadyslexia.org.uk



B.D.A.'s Top Five Tips for Encouraging Reading

- Listen to audiobooks and follow with the book at the same time. Record your own voice or your child's voice to make it more exciting and personal.
- Don't be afraid to abandon a book half way through if it is not of interest. If it's not working just chose another one rather than doggedly reading on for the sake of it.
- Read everything – cereal packets/signs/instructions/comics – it's still reading even if it's not a book!
- Read parts together e.g. you read one character your child another – find ways to make it fun!
- Let your child see you reading for pleasure and take your child to the library regularly to choose books together.

Tips from parents to help encourage reluctant readers

I would suggest magazines in a subject matter that's of interest or the First News newspaper for primary children. Audiobooks and reading together also helped to develop a love of books. My 15 year old dyslexic now reads for pleasure.

Wendy McGauley

Harry Potter and The Vampire Diaries got our lad reading. I read a bit, left it on a cliff-hanger and caught him engrossed in the early hours. He even would come downstairs, finger on a word because he just HAD to know what happened next.

Judith Wilson

Both my boys are dyslexic. With my eldest, we would sit side by side holding a hand. He would read as much as he could but squeeze my hand if he couldn't/didn't want to read a word and I would read it. It didn't take long for us to get into a rhythm which meant the story flowed well. He's now 12 with a reading age of 15+. Now my youngest is a different kettle of fish and the tricks I used with my eldest don't work with him.

Mandy Morris

Leave books lying around that look interesting and make sure he/she sees you reading different forms of material. I read to my son every night and we discussed 'our' favourite books. I also let him know when I found it a struggle but still tried, sought help and didn't give up - I'm dyslexic too. I also took him to see one of 'our' favourite authors at the Edinburgh Book Festival even though he'd never read the books himself he still enjoyed the experience.

The main thing is finding what interests them and run with it. Never go on about them reading, I really wanted my son to find the love of reading I have but didn't keep on at him to read as I knew he'd get put off if I did. With patience and little teasers lying around he's found it by himself.

Jo McNally

Audiobooks! They meant my daughter was able to develop a love of literature. Her comprehension is well above her expected level and she loves stories. She now has a reading age 5 years above her biological age and the comprehension of an adult. Audiobooks were our saviour!

Fiona Howie Denny

Fundraising for the British Dyslexia Association.

As a charity we are heavily reliant on fundraising to support the positive work of the B.D.A., including campaigning and lobbying for long lasting and sustainable change for the benefit of dyslexic people, providing impartial and objective advice and support to dyslexic people and those with whom they come into contact, as well as sharing best practice.

We are very grateful to those people who support our work through fundraising or making a donation as well as volunteering. We also enjoy hearing from people who would like to get involved in the work of the B.D.A.

If you would like to get involved and help fundraise for the British Dyslexia Association please email fundraising@bdadyslexia.org.uk.

Thank you for your support!



[www.justgiving.com/
dyslexiaassociation](http://www.justgiving.com/dyslexiaassociation)

A-Z Fundraising Ideas.

- **Auction of promises** – people promise to do things for others such as making a website or cleaning the house, the promises are auctioned off.
- **Bath of baked beans** – how long can you sit in one? Be sponsored to last the longest! You could also try this with instant mashed potato or spaghetti!
- **Comedy night** - find a local comedian or two and put on a show.
- **Dog walking** – offer to walk your friends and families dogs for a small charge. Add extra if they need a bath too!
- **Expert talk** – ask a well-known or respected speaker to present a talk and charge the audience to attend.
- **Fashion show** – ask local fashion designers and students to help put on a show and charge people to watch it. You could even look at auctioning some of the clothes from the show?
- **Garden Party** – anyone for Pimms? Bring in a local band and put on some garden games.

- **Heads and Tails** – great to do at a dinner. Everyone stands up and passes round an envelope where participants each place £5. Before a coin is flipped, guests decide if they are a head or a tail by putting hand on head or bottom for tails. Those who get it wrong sit down again. Continue until only one person is left standing. Winner receives a percentage of the collection or a different prize.
- **Individual gifts** - this could be an hours pay from the day or give up your weekly takeaway coffee and donate what you save.
- **Jail Break** – escape from a designated location in teams of 2 – 4 and be sponsored to travel as far as you can in 24 hours, without spending no money and using a variety of transport.
- **Kite flying competition** – make your own kite and award prizes for the best design and longest flight.
- **Loud tie day** – make a donation and wear your loudest tie for the day.
- **Mosaic of coins / mile of pennies** – invite people to donate coins, as many or as little as they like, and then use them to create a design or see how far around the school hall or playground you can get with a trail of coins.

- **Night walk** – be sponsored to join a night time hike. Fancy dress optional.
- **Open gardens** – persuade people to open their lovely gardens for the day and charge the public a small entry fee to visit. Could also sell refreshments to those attending.
- **Polo tournament** – ask your local team to host a polo tournament and collect either the entry fees or organise a raffle to take place on the day.
- **Quiz night**
- **Race night** – Take over a community hall for the evening and host a horse race night featuring races from around the world.
- **Sports day** – have fun recreating those old school events and change both adults and children to take part.
- **Stocks** – put your boss, teacher or other good sports into the stocks before asking people to pay to throw wet sponges or even custard pies at them.
- **Tiddly winks competition**
- **Urban games competition** – skateboarding, BMX biking, blading...who has the best tricks?

- **Variety show** – Gather together singers, dancers, magicians, comedians and poets in a show and charge people to attend the event.
- **Wacky races day** – three legged races, wheelbarrow race, welly wanging... it's all fun that helps raise money for charity.
- **Wages donation** – donate a percentage or an hour of your pay. You can also contact our Head of Fundraising to find out about Give as You Earn.
- **Xylophone playing competition** – best tune wins!
- **Yacht race or regatta** – organise one yourself or ask to be beneficiary of a local event
- **Zany dress** – have a wild and wacky dress day at work, school or college.

Dyslexia Awareness Week Events

We have lots of exciting events planned for this year and will be confirming times and dates in the next couple of months.

To sign up to the Dyslexia Awareness Week newsletter and receive information on these events when details are announced, please visit: www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/fundraising/dyslexia-awareness-week

Organising your own event

Remember you can organise your own awareness events during the week and make them as big or as little as you like! Previous events people have organised include tea mornings for parents, talks from well known people with dyslexia, study skills sessions for students and so on.

If you do decide to organise an event, give people lots of notice as to the date and venue and be sure to let us know so we can share details of your event on our social media.

Email media@bdadyslexia.org.uk to let us know what you have planned.

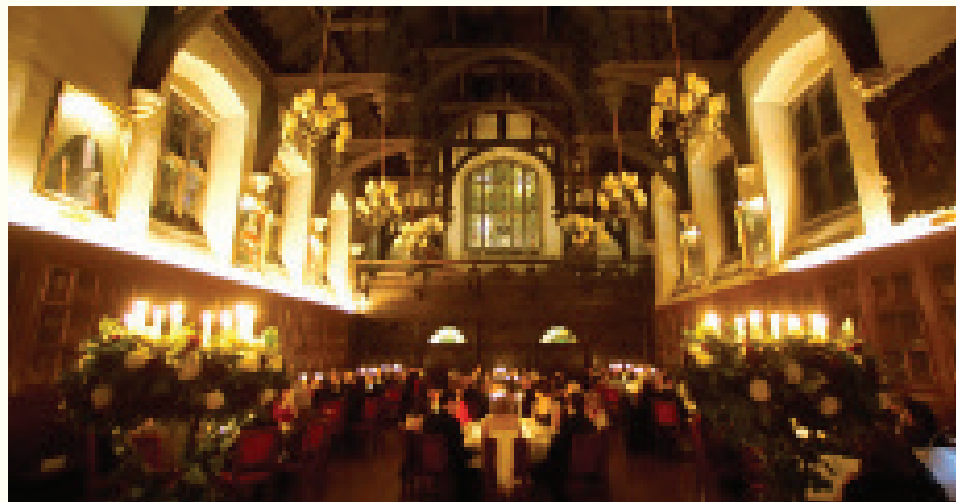
B.D.A. Dyslexia Awards Evening - November 27 2015

This year's B.D.A. Dyslexia Awards Dinner takes place on Friday 27th November 2015 in the wonderful surroundings of The Hall at Gray's Inn, London.

It is set to be another great evening of fun, entertainment and inspiring stories as we celebrate the achievements of dyslexic individuals, including children, young people, adults and the teachers that support them.

The evening will include a drinks reception, a superb three course meal with wine, silent and live auctions and exclusive live entertainment.

This event is now sold out, however to find out more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact philw@bdadyslexia.org.uk.



British Dyslexia Association Annual Awards.

The B.D.A. invites nominations for the following four awards:

- Child (age 12 and under)
- Young Person (age 13-17)
- Adult (18+)
- Teacher

The Awards will be presented at the B.D.A. Awards Evening on November 27, 2015, The Hall at Gray's Inn London. The award winner from each category and one guest will be invited to attend and receive their award at this event. Travel and accomodation has been generously covered by our sponsors.

To nominate someone for an award, please use form shown below and send nominations to media@bdadyslexia.org.uk or DAW Awards, BDA Unit 8 Bracknell Beeches, Old Bracknell Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 7BW.

The closing date for nominations is October 10, 2015.

Awards
sponsored
by:



Sponsor of the
Adult's Award



Sponsor of the
Young People's Award



Sponsor of the
Children's Award



Sponsor of the
Teacher's Award

Awards
sponsored
by:



Sponsor of the
Adult's Award



Sponsor of the
Young People's
Award



Sponsor of the
Children's Award



Sponsor of the
Teacher's Award

Your details

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

Relationship to nominee: _____

Details for person you are nominating

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

Category you are nominating them in: (please circle)

Child Young Person Adult Teacher

School (if applicable): _____

Date of birth (if under 18): ___ / ___ / ___

Parent/guardian's name (if nominee is under 18): _____

In no more than 250 words, provide details of why you are nominating this person for the award:

Please continue on the next page if you need additional space.

Awards
sponsored
by:



Sponsor of the
Adult's Award



Sponsor of the
Young People's
Award



Sponsor of the
Children's Award



Sponsor of the
Teacher's Award

(continued):

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By submitting this form, you give the BDA permission to use the information contained within it as part of your awards application. From time to time we would like to send you further information on the BDA's services and activities. If you would prefer not to receive this information, please tick here:

If you would like to find out more about this event, please visit this site: www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/fundraising/gala-evening

Please send completed forms to: media@bdadyslexia.org.uk or BDA, Unit 8 Bracknell Beeches, Old Bracknell Lane, Bracknell, RG12 7BW.

All nominations must be received by October 12, 2015.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

(if nominee is under 18, please ask a parent or guardian to sign this consent form)

Dyslexia Awareness Week competition.

This competition is only open to individuals with dyslexia.

There are two categories this year:

- Artists (including photography and graphic design):
Age Categories: 5-11 years, 12-17 years, and 18+
- Writers (including fiction, non-fiction and poetry):
Age Categories: 5-11 years, 12-17 years, and 18+

The theme for 2015 is Making Sense of Dyslexia and we are asking you to interpret the theme in your own way by creating a piece of art or text.

This year we are restricting the size of entries (to A5) and all entries must be submitted on the template, which is on the next page of this resource pack as well as our website in the Dyslexia Awareness Week section. The template should be printed double sided and then cut in half.

Entries should be sent to DAW Competition, BDA Unit 8 Bracknell Beeches, Old Bracknell Lane, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 7BW.

**Please note we are only accepting hard copies of entries this year.
The closing date for this competition is September 30, 2015.**

Name: _____

Date of birth: ____ / ____ / ____

Address: _____

Email: _____

School (if being entered from a school or college): _____

Category (please circle): Writers Artists

Age group (please circle): 5-11 12-17 18+

Signature: _____

If person entering is under 18; please ask a parent, guardian or responsible adult to sign this consent form.

By submitting your work, you agree for the BDA to display and share your work whether it be at an exhibition, on social media or in promotional materials.

Name: _____

Date of birth: ____ / ____ / ____

Address: _____

Email: _____

School (if being entered from a school or college): _____

Category (please circle): Writers Artists

Age group (please circle): 5-11 12-17 18+

Signature: _____

If person entering is under 18; please ask a parent, guardian or responsible adult to sign this consent form.

By submitting your work, you agree for the BDA to display and share your work whether it be at an exhibition, on social media or in promotional materials.



Upcoming conferences

Dyslexia: Raising Achievement Conference

November 5, 2015. Holiday Inn Brentford Lock, London

The British Dyslexia Association is committed to raising achievement for dyslexic people, both adults and children, and this exciting one-day conference will explore the various ways that this can be obtained.

The confirmed speakers are:

- Professor Sonia Blandford - Founder and CEO of Achievement for All, Professor of Education and Social Enterprise at the Institute of Education, and Senior Research Fellow at Oxford University
- Victor Van Daal, Edge Hill University
- Glenys Heap, Head of Educational Development at Dyslexia Action
- Abi James, Chair of the BDA New Technologies Committee
- Tom Cone, Director of Admissions and Placement at Eagle Hill School, Connecticut

10th International Conference

March 10-12, 2016. The King's Centre, Oxford

The 10th International conference is a high profile conference with the key aim of linking academic researchers with practitioners. The conference will cover all aspects of research related to Dyslexia, including identification, theoretical views, intervention and support for children, students and adults. The Conference will be chaired by Professor Victor van Daal and the theme for 2016 is 'Moving Forward: Challenges and Transitions'.

The confirmed speakers are:

- Professor Elena Grigorenko
- Professor Maggie Snowling
- Professor Usha Goswami
- Professor Susan Gathercole
- Professor Don Compton
- Professor Deirdre Martin
- Professor Karin Landerl
- Professor Tom Nicholson
- Professor Peter de Jong
- Professor Victor van Daal
- Dr Julia Carroll

For more
information or to
book, contact
conference@
bdadyslexia.org.uk
or 0333 405 4555

Upcoming webinars

Promoting the Best Possible Outcomes for Dyslexic Learners in Schools September 30 2015

Cheron Macdonald, previous B.D.A. Teacher of the Year, will be speaking in her role as SENCo, on practical ways to support children in school.

Making Sense of Dyslexia: Personal Perspective - October 7 2015

Pamela Uddin, The Apprentice candidate and B.D.A. Ambassador will be sharing her own experiences of Dyslexia as part of Dyslexia Awareness Week 2015.

Exam Access Arrangements for Teachers - 20 October 2015

Dineke Austin.

Dyslexia Friendly Schools - November 2015

Neil Mackay

Selecting tests for Assessment - January 19 2016

In this webinar Dr Kim Rochelle will be looking at suitable tests for diagnostic assessment. This will be primarily for AMBDA teachers wanting a refresher/ update. This may be of interest to those with an APC, but the 5 hour SASC accredited course may be more suitable.

For more
information or to book,
please visit: [www.
bdadyslexia.org.uk/
services/webinars](http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/services/webinars)

Teacher Training

This is just a small selection of the courses available. To book onto any of our training courses or for more information, please contact training@bdadyslexia.org.uk

Practical Solutions for Dyslexia For Primary Teachers and T.A.s

(1 day) £130

A detailed focus on awareness of Dyslexia and its fit with other co-occurring difficulties. This full day course provides practical activities and ideas to support dyslexic children in the primary classroom.

Practical Solutions for Dyslexia (10:00am - 1:00pm)

An overview of teaching and resources to help you support dyslexic children in the classroom.

Introduction to Dyscalculia (2:00pm – 5:00pm)

Focuses on what Dyscalculia is, its links with other SpLD's and practical tips for inclusive teaching of arithmetic.

£72 half-day session (dyslexia or dyscalculia) or £130 for the full day (both sessions)

New for Early Years: Dyslexia and the Foundation Stage For Early Years and Nursery Teachers and T.A.s

(1 day) £130

This course will explore the impact Dyslexia can have on the under-fives, presenting strategies to assist young learners with reference to the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS).

British Dyslexia Association: National Helpline.

The B.D.A. Helpline provides dyslexia information and advice surrounding dyslexic issues.

To talk to Helpline staff, phone 0333 405 4567

or

email: helpline@bdadyslexia.org.uk

Opening times:

10 am – 12.30 and 1 pm - 4 pm Monday to Friday.

Closed Wednesday afternoons.

There are also a large number of frequently asked questions available from the British Dyslexia Association website: www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

