

# 20 factors that may identify dyslexia in a child



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## **GENETICS**

1. A family history of learning disabilities
2. Being adopted or fostered. Many adopted or fostered children have a higher rate of learning disabilities

## **INFANCY**

3. Was the baby born prematurely with a low Apgar score.
4. Did the baby have frequent ear infections that may have affected hearing? These symptoms might indicate the presence of a learning disability

## **MOTOR/PERCEPTUAL SKILLS**

### **Look for difficulty in any of the following areas:**

5. Gross motor skills eg hopping, skipping, walking on a narrow ledge (balancing) Fine motor skills eg cutting with scissors, tracing along a line and showing frustration
6. Drawing / Copying from the board or from a book and getting frustrated trying
7. Difficulty with pencil grip / knife and fork grip
8. Has difficulty naming objects or naming things in sequence eg days of the week, months of the year.

## **PRIMARY / GRADE SCHOOL**

9. Problems in understanding directions or giving directions
10. Problems with time concepts ie telling the time or understanding the concepts of before/after/later
11. Problems recalling facts or telling a story factually and sequentially eg recalling a family outing
12. Slow to learn the connection between letters and their sounds

- 13 Reverses b and d or u and n and sometimes d/b and p
- 14 Difficulty reading words – finds it difficult to decode the symbols
- 15 Frustrated when trying to read and gives excuses not to eg. I have a headache today. My tummy is too sore to read.
- 16 Remembering and following instructions
- 17 Has difficulty memorizing times tables or words for a play or phone numbers
- 18..Very forgetful about what to bring to school or taking homework home
- 19 Following instructions for step by step procedures eg a recipe.
- 20 Poor self management skills – inability to get a task started / inability to maintain a level of attention/ Poor planning