# The Intersection of Dyslexia & Dysgraphia

Laura Dowdy Northcutt, OTR

WTAMU 10.2.23

## How Did I Get Here?

#### And why do I stay?





### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### 01 Written Language 02 Dyslexia

Development of Reading and Writing Skills

Definition, Evaluation, & Intervention

#### **03** Dysgraphia

Definition, Evaluation, Intervention, & Simulation

#### **04** Accommodations

Why Essential & Some Examples



## 01 Written Language

Development of Reading and Writing Skills

## Pathway to Reading & Writing

(decoding) Receptive

Reading

Writing (encoding) Expressive

Listening Receptive

ORAL LANGUAGE

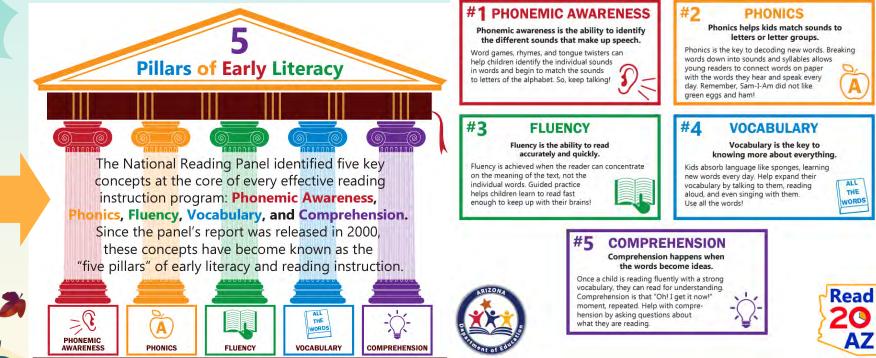
Speaking Expressive

### Language

HZ		Oral Language	Written Language
	Receptive	Listening	Reading
	Expressive	Speaking	Writing
	Brain "Real Estate"	biologically hardwired automatic process	repurpose & rewire make new circuits & connections
<u>SPEL</u>	Learning By Design Making A Difference in K-12 Equ	speech Visual Auditory Cerebellum	Cecebility
		Reading, writing, spelling — It's building the brain	
	sign.com/why-spell-	to % 20 horrow 20 more 2 toxt Tho % 20 horring 20 ic % 20 his	laries/h/20uind as

links/#:~:text=The%20Human%20Brain,tap%20tabs%20to%20learn%20more.&text=The%20brain%20is%20biologically%20wired,sp

## National Reading Panel 2000 🤞 🌿



ittps://www.nichd.nih.gov/sites/default/files/publications/pubs/nrp/Documents/report.pdf

https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2017/11/5%20pillars%20infographic%20Poster.pdf?id=5a1c969e3217e10144257f54

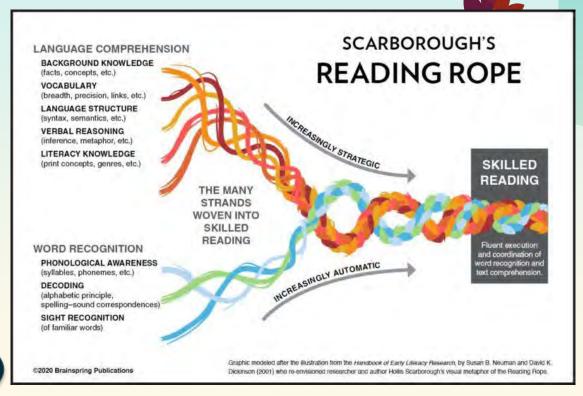
### **Reading Development**

### WR x LC = RC

Word Reading/ Decoding

Language Comprehension





#### https://www.weareteachers.com/scarboroughs-rope/

### Simple View of Writing

TEXT GENERATION Content, Ideas, Voice

TRANSCRIPTION SKILLS Handwriting, spelling, spacing, punctuation, \_\_\_\_\_capitalization

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS Attention, planning, reviewing, revising, selfregulation

Berninger, 2011

### Writing Development

Style- High School Fluency for Composition

Voice - Middle School Fluency for Composition

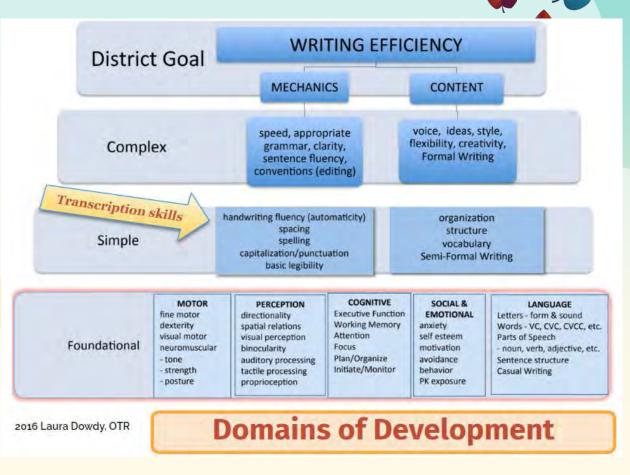
Automaticity- Ages 11-14 Fluency for Composition

Developing - Ages 8-10 Handwriting fluency

Graphemes/Spaces- Ages 6-7 phoneme-grapheme correspondence placement

Approximates - Ages 3-5 Letter Like Shapes

> Imitates - Ages 2-3 Scribbling/Drawing





# Dyslexia

02

Written Language Disorder: Impacts Reading

Definition

#### specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin

What teacher sees first

Cause

What teacher sees later

Dyslexia

characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities

*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

Adopted by the IDA Board of Directors, Nov. 12, 2002

SPED pathway only

### **Dyslexia Evaluation**

Figure	e34/	reas for	Evaluation
--------	------	----------	------------

•

#### Academic Skills

- Letter knowledge (name and associated sound)
- Reading words in isolation
- Decoding unfamiliar words accurately
- Reading fluency (rate, accuracy, and prosody are assessed)
- Reading comprehension
- Spelling

- Cognitive Processes P
- Phonological/phonemic awareness
- Rapid naming of symbols or objects
- Possible Additional Areas
- Vocabulary
- Listening comprehension
- Verbal expression
- Written expression
- Handwriting
- Memory for letter or symbol sequences (orthographic processing)
- Mathematical calculation/reasoning
- Phonological memory
- Verbal working memory
- Processing speed







Academic Skills Impacted: LK RWI NWI RF - R/A/P Spelling

Important to look at student's skills in comparison with grade level expectations at BOY/MOY/EOY benchmarks

SPED pathway only

### **Dyslexia Intervention**

### Components

Phonological Awareness Sound Symbol Association **Syllabication** Orthography Morphology **Syntax** Reading Fluency Reading Comprehension

DYSLEXIA
HANDBOOK
Chapter IV
2021 Update
Procedures Concerning Dyslexia and Related Disorders
1 (* )

THE



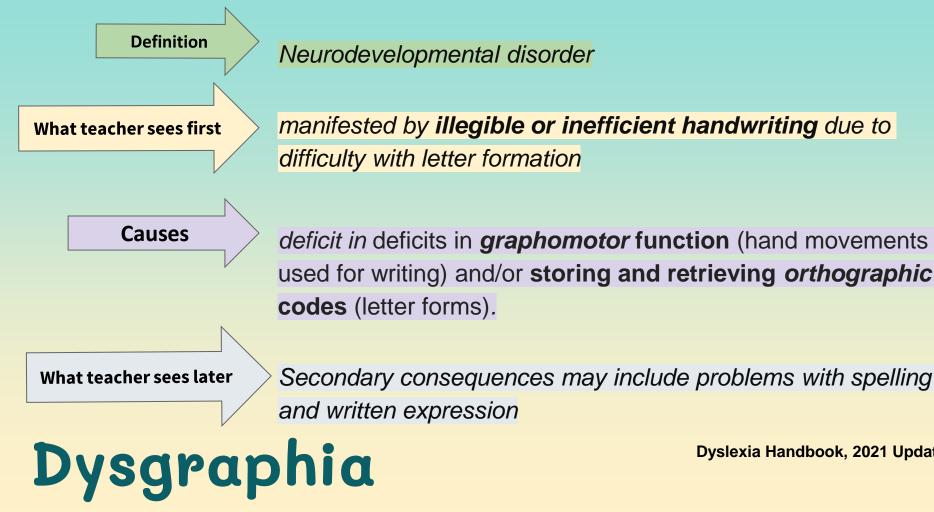
Simultaneous, multisensory (VAKT) Systematic and cumulative Explicit instruction Diagnostic teaching to automaticity Synthetic instruction Analytic instruction



## Dysgraphia

03

Written Language Disorder: Impacts Writing



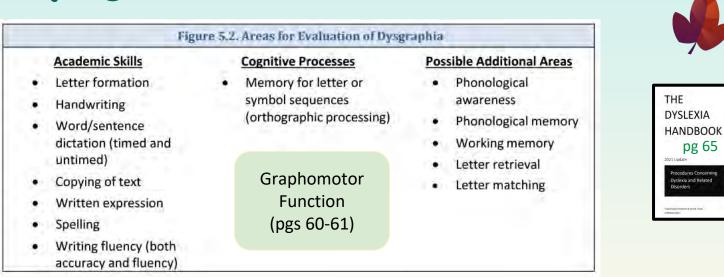
manifested by **illegible or inefficient handwriting** due to difficulty with letter formation

*deficit in* deficits in *graphomotor* function (hand movements used for writing) and/or storing and retrieving orthographic codes (letter forms).

Dyslexia Handbook, 2021 Update

SPED pathway only

### **Dysgraphia Evaluation**



Primary features: Handwriting Legibility (accuracy) Handwriting Rate (fluency)

Academic Skills Impacted: Dictation Copying Written Composition Spelling

Data re: written task demands in classroom

pg 65

slexia and Related

Student Performance vs peers/expectations

### **Deeper Dive into Causes**

Dysgraphia can be due to:

- Impaired feedback the brain is receiving from the fingers
- Weaknesses using visual processing to coordinate hand movement and organize the use of space
- Problems with motor planning and sequencing
- Difficulty with storage and retrieval of letter forms (Levine, 1999)

#### Dowdy OT on Graphomotor

- 1. Sensory Input feedback from the joints, skin, and eyes (proprioceptive, tactile, visual)
- 2. Perceptual/Motor visual perception and visual motor integration
- 3. Motor Output bilateral integration, hand dominance, crossing midline, grip (in hand manipulation skills, hand/finger strength), posture (proximal stability), wrist stability in extension, open webspace

Orthographic Codes can be:

- ➤ Letter Forms
- Letter sequences (spelling)



## Experience Graphomotor Difficulty

- Find a space to write on your paper
- You will print your full name (manuscript)
- If you have extra time start writing the lowercase alphabet in order



- 1. Stand Up to do this activity
- 2. Put your dominant index finger on where you will start
- 3. Use your NON-dominant hand to write
- 4. CLOSE your eyes

Using the code on the next slide, I would like you to write until I say stop.

Writing Prompt:

### Experience What is your favorite thing about fall? an Orthographic Difficulty

You must use the code without any use of actual letters.

You may begin as soon as the code appears...



C 2 L r А в F D Е 1 . 1 0 <L н G I K L N  $\cap$ R Μ N 0 P V U U Х W S т 1 Z Z Y

### Linking Characteristics to Causes

THE

HANDBOOK

Pgs 60-62

- Variably shaped (OP), poorly formed letters (GM), improper letter slant (GM)
- Poor spacing between letters and words (GM), inability to copy correctly (GM)
- Letter and number reversals beyond early stages of writing such as "b" and "d" reversals (OP)
- > Difficulty with unedited written spelling (OP), inability to recall orthographic patterns for words (OP)
- > Awkward, inconsistent pencil grip (GM), Excessive erasures and cross-outs (OP) > (GM)
- ➤ Heavy pressure/hand fatigue or inadequate pressure (GM)
- ➢ Overuse of short familiar words "big" (OP)
- > Slow or labored writing & copying with legible or illegible handwriting (GM/OP)
- Low volume of written output & problems w/other aspects of written expression (GM/OP)
- Inability of student to read what was previously written (GM/OP)
- Avoidance of Written Tasks (GM/OP)

SPED pathway only

### **Dyslexia Intervention**

### Components

Handwriting: Posture, Grip, Letter Formation

**Spelling**: Phoneme-Grapheme Correspondence, Letter order and sequence patterns, orthographic conventions: syllable types, orthographic rules, irregular words; meaning (morphology), etymology (origin)

*Written Expression*: strategies for composing including planning, generating, reviewing, evaluating, and revising different genre including narrative, informational, compare and contrast, and persuasive compositions

THE DYSLEXIA HANDBOOK Chapter V 2023 Update



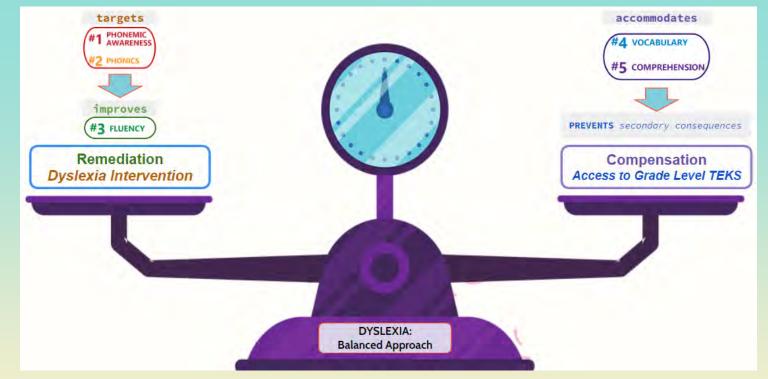
### Methodology

Simultaneous, multisensory (VAKT) Diagnostic teaching to automaticity Systematic and cumulative Explicit instruction

## Accommodations

04

for Written Language Disorders

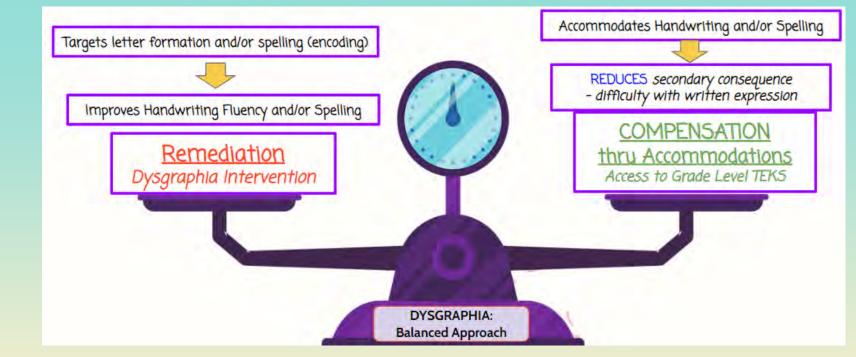


Common Accommodations for Dyslexia:

- Text-to-Speech (TTS)
- Extra time on assignments and testing
- Spell Check (orthographic errors) or Phonetic spelling assist (phonological errors)
- Content & Language supports

#### AT IS ESSENTIAL!

The barrier of difficulty with decoding/reading fluency limits or prevents access to grade level text



Common Accommodations for Dysgraphia:

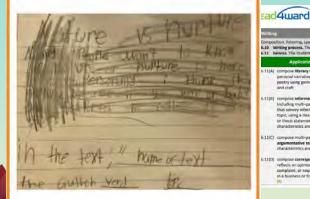
- Access to word processor
- Copy of class notes prior to lecture (no attempt required)
- Speech-to-Text (STT)
- Standard Spell Check (orthographic errors)
- PDF annotator & Access to classroom content PDFs
- Word prediction software

**AT IS ESSENTIAL!** 

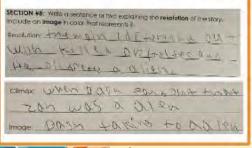
Dysgraphia impacts dictation (taking notes), copying and written composition

#### **6th Grade ELAR - Argumentative Essay**

#### Without Accommodations



#### **Pre-Write Samples**



#### Grade Level Expectation

Snapshot - Grade 6 English Language Arts and Reading

#### Composition: listening, soughing, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple bests 5.10 Writing process. The student uses the writing process recursively to comprise multiple texts that are leable and uses appropriate convention 5.11 General. The student uses sense characteristics and craft to compose multiple texts that are meaningful Tools to Know (Writing Process) 6.11(A) compose literary texts such as 6-10(A) plan a first draft by selecting a genre appropriate for a particular topic, purpose, and audience using a range of strategies such as discussion, background adding, personal narratives, fiction, and and personal interests poetry using genre characteristics 5 (Dill) develop drafts into a focused, structured, and coherent piece of writing by and craft (3) organizing with purposeful structure, including an introduction, transitions, coherence within and across paraetaols, and a conclusion (9) (ii) developing an engaging idea reflecting depth of thought with specific facts and details (R) 6.11(8) compose informational texts including multi-paragraph essays 6.50(C) revise drafts for clarity, development, organization, style, word choice, and sentence variety (R) that convey information about a topic, using a clear controlling idea 6.10(0) edit drafts using standard English conventions, including: (3) or thesis statement and genre complete complex sentences with subject verb agreement and avoidance of splices, run-ors, and fragments (A) characteristics and craft (R) (ii) consistent, appropriate use of verb tenses (R) (iii) conjunctive advertes (5) (iv) prepositions and prepositional phrases and their influence on subject-verb agreement (6) 6.11(C) -compose multi-paragraph pronouns, including relative (%) argumentative texts using perce characteristics and craft (R) subordinating conjunctions to form complex sentences and correlative conjunctions such as either/or and neither/nor (III (vii) capitalization of proper nouns, including abbreviations, initials, acromyms, and organizations (1) (viii) punctuation marks, including commas in complex sentences, transitions, and introductory elements (I 11(D) compose correspondence that (ix) correct spelling, including commonly confused terms such as its/it's, affect/effect, there/their/they're, and to/two/too (A) reflects an opinion, registers a complaint, or requests informatio in a business or friendly structure 6.1001) mublish written work for appropriate autoencer

Asking a student with dysgraphia to limit their written output to what they can compose by hand is not only frustrating, it is **PUNITIVE**.

Just because a disability is "invisible" does not mean it does not impact the student in multiple ways during the school day.

#### With Accommodations after Revising & Editing

Which is more powerful: nature or nurture? Does it matter what genes you are born

with, or is how you're raised more important?

DNA is the code you are born with. Doctors study maps of human DNA to determine why people become sick. DNA maps also indicate why we act a certain way. Some people think this is mapped out like a code similar to a video game that is hard to beat. You can try and try to change the code, but it can seem impossible. If nature was most important then we could never change anything.

Nurture relates to how parents or people who love you help raise you. Nurture is a sense of love and being cared for. Being full of nurture is how I feel about my dog B. B. which stand for Baseball Boy. I love and care for B. B. and offer the dog a sense of nurture.

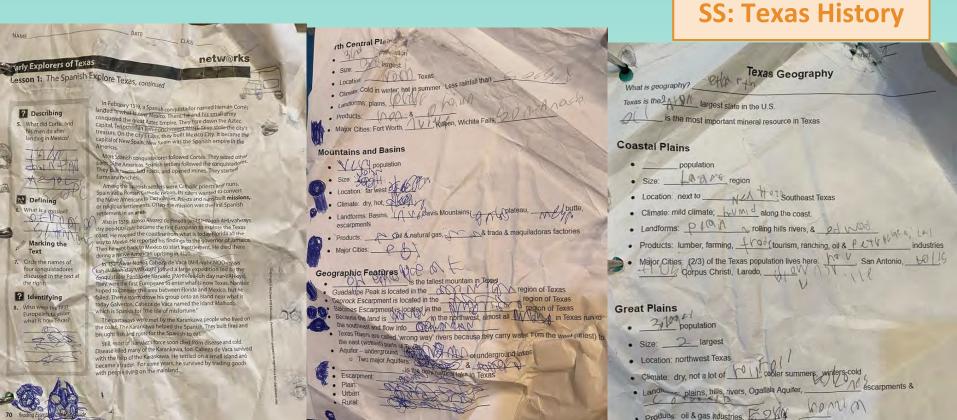
Personally, I think nurture is more important because where you're from shouldn't really affect you for your whole life. You can not choose who your parents are or choose what family you are born to, that is up to God. Everyone has a choice to decide what to do, and that does not rely on your DNA. It doesn't mean that nature is negative. Both nature and nurture have pros and cons. Whether struggling with a DNA map, a video game, or the choices family has made, or choosing to love others through the idea of nurture, if I had to choose between nature and nurture, I would choose nurture because then I have a choice of my future pathway.

#### 7th Grade - Impacts of Dysgraphia Across the Curriculum

RELA

WW Essay Planner 7 GOREGA Concluding Sentence - write a sentence that summarizes your points in this paragraph Date Class Record your prompt here (you can copy and paste): Argumentative Essay Break Down Non & Gland Gland NTRODUCTION e - write here a sentence that grabs the reader's attention for your topic OF SPOR When illed it on a bad BODY PARAGRAPH 3 Reason 1 - write a topic sentence that introduces the third reason for OD. LOSTAAJKIN 9+ DON Write your claim here: MY Phone No NARD Remember that a claim is the topic, your position, and yourreasons, all in one A COMPANY sentences Background - write 1-2 sentences with some information about your topic vedgulg C Steel Fouri Amap Evidence - write a sentence using evidence from y MY brother Reason 2: Reason 3: Reason 1: Write down the proof (facts Write down the proof (facts Write down the proof (facts and statistics) for reason 1 and statistics) for reason 2 and statistics) for reason 3 Sore of a concord NOVO DO to here here MESEOR Analysis - write 2 or more sentences that explains h paragraphs. Perole NID Mort GEOBC, AND that MATA NO 6 Concluding Sentence - write a sentence that summarizes your points in this paragraph Write down the sounderargument here: FER , yobk . What would someone say if they were arguing against you? BODY PARAGRAPH 1 toused omenoko topic sentence that introduces the first reason for your argument tratifier all our Do whethere but ( ev GI to much Stomal BODY PARAGRAPHA. PATCH D D + 649 MK te down your tebuttal here: he will you prove their counterargument wrong? Evidence - write a Ne intreating the by the all vi

#### 7th Grade - Impacts of Dysgraphia Across the Curriculum



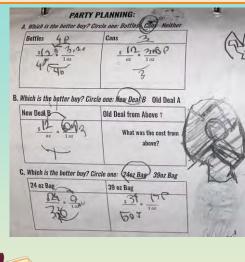
Major Clies: Lubbook

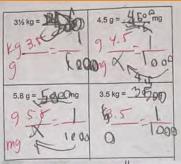
#### 7th Grade - Impacts of Dysgraphia Across the Curriculum

5,500 mL = hell

21/2 L = \_\_\_\_\_ mL

mL



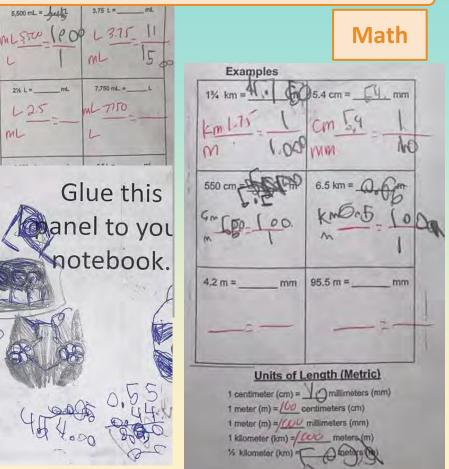


Find the unit price and compare.

 $\oslash$ 

1. At Price Right Grocery Store apples are \$2.20 for 4 apples. At Always Fresh Grocery Store the same apples are selling for \$4.40 for 10 apples. Which store has the better buy?

2. Game Start is setting video games for \$45. Video World is setting the same video games at ofor \$56. Which store has the better price per game?





## **Questions**?

# Thanks!

laura.dowdy.ot@gmail.com



**CREDITS:** This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, including icons by **Flaticon** and infographics

Please keep this slide for attribution

& images by Freepik