

Dyslexia Foundation of New Zealand

“ I'd previously been opposed to the notion of labelling children, but the term “dyslexic” was very potent in helping our son and our understanding of him. ”

- Suzanne Pope-Mayell, Trustee, Dyslexia Foundation of New Zealand

The Dyslexia Foundation of New Zealand has been established to increase the awareness, recognition, understanding and acceptance of dyslexia as a way of thinking in New Zealand.

A key goal is to have dyslexia recognised by the Ministry of Education, so learning opportunities suited to dyslexic learners become inherent in the mainstream school system.

“ I was, on the whole, considerably discouraged by my school days. It was not pleasant to feel oneself so completely outclassed and left behind at the beginning of the race. ”

- Winston Churchill

At present, dyslexic learners are disadvantaged by a lack of understanding, recognition and resources for their way of thinking and learning.

“ He told me that his teachers reported that . . . he was mentally slow, unsociable, and adrift forever in his foolish dreams. ”

- Hans Albert Einstein, on his father, Albert Einstein

The organisations, companies, individuals and groups that are listed on the Dyslexia Foundation website are unified in their mission to have dyslexia recognised as a way of thinking.

Show your support – become a member of the Dyslexia Foundation of New Zealand. Visit: www.dyslexiafoundation.org.nz

Dyslexia
Foundation
of New Zealand

E: info@dyslexiafoundation.org.nz

W: www.dyslexiafoundation.org.nz

Recognition • Understanding • Action

Over **70,000** children
in New Zealand have the gift of picture thinking!

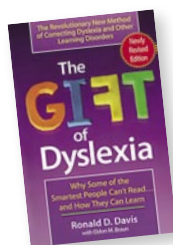
“ For a dyslexic who does not yet know they are dyslexic, life is like a big high wall you never think you will be able to climb or get over. The moment you understand there is something called dyslexia, and there are ways of getting around the problem, the whole world opens up. ”

- Sir Jackie Stewart

“ I barely made it through school. I read real slow. But I like to find things that nobody else has found, like a dinosaur egg that has an embryo inside. Well, there are 36 of them in the world, and I found 35. ”

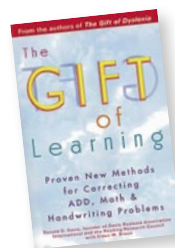
- Dr. John R. Horner, American paleontologist

Recommended Reading:



The Gift of Dyslexia

ISBN: 039952293X



The Gift of Learning

ISBN: 0399528091

By: Ronald D. Davis and Eldon Braun

Available at all major booksellers and public libraries throughout New Zealand.



Cookie Munchers
Charitable Trust

21 Worcester Boulevard, P.O. Box 16141, Christchurch

Fax: 03 365 1101 Email: info@cmct.org.nz

Web: www.cmct.org.nz

Our thanks to:



Dyslexia

The Gift of Picture Thinking



Cookie Munchers
Charitable Trust

Helping dyslexic kids discover their gift

A message from Sarah....

*Hi my name is Sarah and I'm dyslexic
I am one of the many people that have
the gift of dyslexia*

*Dyslexia means I can think outside the
square and learning in words and letters
is difficult for me*

*I think in pictures not in words. It takes
me a little longer to work things out.*

*I have words I don't understand, for
example AND, THE and WHAT,
because I cannot make a picture of them.
If there's a word rocket I think of the picture
other learners think of the letters.*

*The word AND has no picture for me.
There are over 200 words in the English
language that I don't understand,
And this is part of what makes my learning
harder.*

*Albert Einstein was even dyslexic and he
invented the + - / x and =.
Thomas Edison who invented the light bulb,
he's even dyslexic.*

*No one recognises dyslexia.
It is not a disability but a gift.
There are more than 105 famous people
that are dyslexic.
Imagine a world without dyslexic people.
No light !
No math !
Do you realise you have just read
about 90 words I do not understand.*



Dyslexia is not....

Dyslexia is not a disease or an illness. Dyslexia is not caused by brain or nerve damage, eye or inner ear defects.

Being dyslexic does not mean that you or your child should be labelled as "slow to learn, not trying hard enough, suffering from learned helplessness".

Dyslexia is....

Dyslexia is an alternative way of thinking that may affect one in ten New Zealanders¹.



Dyslexics think predominantly in pictures, not the sound of words.

Some research indicates that dyslexia runs in families. A young child with this propensity naturally specialises in picture thinking.

Picture thinking is many times faster and offers many advantages over word thinking.

Our education system has been designed primarily for word thinkers not picture thinkers. This creates many challenges for both the education system and dyslexic individuals.

Picture thinking with objects



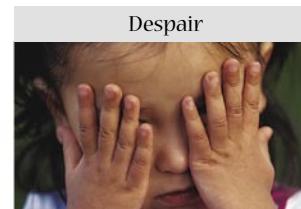
Picture thinking with words

CAT TAC TAC CAT ACT TCA
CAT TAC TAC CAT ATC CTA
CAT TAC TAC CAT CTA ATC
ACT TCA TCA TCA ATC CTA
ACT TCA TCA TCA ATC CTA

Being dyslexic is both a gift and a challenge!

The challenges of being dyslexic....

When a young picture thinker starts school full of curiosity their journey into a world dominated by word thinking begins.



Because learning opportunities are mostly offered in a way that suits word thinkers, dyslexics often experience confusion and disorientation.

¹ Based on statistics reported from the UK: www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

The resulting self doubt, frustration and despair often leads to predictable and counterproductive behaviours and coping strategies. Examples include inattention, day-dreaming, or becoming the "class clown" to name a few.

The good news is that dyslexic children and adults can overcome the challenge of learning in a world of "words".

Firstly, and most importantly, there needs to be recognition and celebration for their alternative way of thinking by both dyslexics and non-dyslexics.

Secondly, the dyslexic individual must take responsibility for their thinking style and acquire the understanding, tools and skills that can help them to overcome their learning difficulties.

For a child, this can only happen when schools, teachers and parents seek understanding & offer environments and learning strategies that allow the dyslexic child to reach their potential.

Discovering the gift of dyslexia™....

The gift of dyslexia™ is the ability to perceive the world from many perspectives; to view the same thing from many different angles allowing special talents and skills in fields such as art and creativity, design, engineering and leadership.



John Britten, Design Engineer



Richard Taylor, Weta Workshop

A powerful solution for learning....

There are many ways of assisting dyslexics. The Davis Dyslexia Correction® programme is a powerful and proven option.



Ronald D. Davis

This programme was designed by an American dyslexic, Ron Davis, and has a 97% success rate. It empowers the individual whilst improving reading, writing, spelling, math, co-ordination, and/or attention.



Clay Modeling

Davis Learning Strategies® offers schools and teachers professional development that will help create a dyslexia-friendly classroom whilst assisting all children's learning needs.

For a full list of dyslexia symptoms and information about the Davis Solutions, please visit: www.ddapacific.co.nz