



Book Resource List

Prepared by the Family Support Office, updated in 2021

Neuhaus Education Center

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These resources can be found in the *Collie Library* at Neuhaus Education Center or at your local library or bookstore. These books are helpful for families to learn about important issues in the area of learning disabilities, especially dyslexia.

For Kids to Read or for Read Aloud:

1. It's Called Dyslexia by Jennifer Moore-Mallinos, illus, by Nuria Roca (K-3rd grade)
Sarah is unhappy and she no longer enjoys school. After she discovers that dyslexia is the reason for her trouble, she begins to understand that with extra practice and help from others, her reading and writing will improve. At the same time, she discovers a hidden talent she never knew existed.
2. The Adventures of Everyday Geniuses Series by Barbara Esham (2nd – 5th grades)
 - a. Free Association, Where My Mind Goes During Science Class
 - b. Stacey Coolidge's Fancy Smancy Cursive Handwriting
 - c. Mrs. Gorski, I Think I Have the Wiggle Fidgets
 - d. If You're So Smart, How Come You Can't Spell Mississippi?
 - e. Keep Your Eye on the Prize
 - f. Last to Finish, A Story About the Smartest Boy in Math Class
3. Looking for Heroes by Aidan Colvin (Remy Johnston Award Winner 2016) (5th and up)
Reading quickly and accurately is often the key to success in school. Without it, many dyslexics struggle and fail. Some, however, go on to achieve wild success. Aidan Colvin, a high school student with dyslexia, decides to write 100 letters to successful adults with dyslexia. He is genuinely surprised when people write back. This book features letters from John Irving (writer), Ann Bancroft (arctic explorer), Delos Cosgrove (surgeon and CEO), Thomas Sayre (sculptor), Phillip Schultz (poet) and others.
4. Dr. Dyslexia Dude (A Superhero Graphic Novel) by Dr. Shawn Robinson (3rd and up)
Doctor Dyslexia Dude is an autobiographical and compelling story of an African-American boy who is also a colorful superhero with dyslexia

5. The Alphabet War: A story about Dyslexia by Diane Burton Robb and Gail Piazza (K – 3)
A story about a boy with dyslexia in the first grade whose teacher wanted him to put the letters into words so he could read. That was the beginning of the Alphabet War. Almost everyone in his class was learning to read, but Adam was fighting a war against the letters.

6. Hank Zipzer: The Mostly True Confessions of the World’s Best Underachiever
A seventeen-book series by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver (2nd - 5th grades)
Hank Zipzer is smart, creative, and funny. He wants to do well in school. He tries not to be lazy, like his parents claim he is. This series is about his adventures to understand others and help them understand him.
 - a. Help somebody get me out of 4th grade
 - b. The Night I Flunked my Field Trip

7. Here’s Hank: Everybody is Somebody Series
A second book series by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver (2nd - 5th grades)
More stories about Hank Zipzer that kids can relate to. This series is printed in the “dyslexia” font designed to make letters more distinct.
 - a. Here’s Hank, Everybody is Somebody
 - b. Here’s Hank, Bookmarks are People too

8. The Lightning Thief (1st in a 5 book series Percy Jackson and the Olympians)
by Rick Riordan (3rd and up)
Perseus "Percy" Jackson is a twelve-year-old New Yorker who has dyslexia and ADHD. For reasons unknown, he often finds himself in unique situations that get him kicked out of school. He discovers his superpowers when he learns that he is the son of the Greek god Poseidon. It is up to him to save the world from an impending war between the gods.

9. Fish in a Tree by Linda Mullaly Hunt (4th grade and up and for Read Aloud)
“Everybody is smart in different ways. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its life believing it is stupid.” Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. In this story, she discovers that there is a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don’t always think alike.

10. Thank you, Mr Falker by Patricia Polacco (K-4 and for Read Aloud)
This autobiographical picture book narrative will evoke empathy and help children to see how painful teasing and bullying can be for someone with any kind of a learning difference. Mr. Falker is a true hero in this book.

11. My Name is Brain/Brian, by Jeanne Betancourt (Elementary)
Struggling with problems that the kids in his class see as clowning around, such as mixing things up and spelling letters backwards, Brian learns he has dyslexia and suffers peer teasing when his friends do not understand. A good one for siblings to read to gain empathy.

For Parents and Others:

12. The Dyslexic Advantage by Drs. Brock and Fernette Eides
The Dyslexic Advantage provides invaluable advice on how parents, educators, and individuals with dyslexia can recognize and use the strengths of the dyslexic learning style in the following areas: material reasoning (used by architects and engineers); interconnected reasoning (scientists and designers), narrative reasoning (novelists and lawyers); and dynamic reasoning (economists and entrepreneurs).
13. From Emotions to Advocacy, Second Edition, by Pete Wright
The Wrights are well-known for their seminars preparing parents for engaging with the system by explaining education law and for sharing strategies and information about advocating for children's educational rights.
14. Overcoming Dyslexia: Second Edition
by Sally Shaywitz, M. D. and Jonathan Shaywitz, M.D.
An essential and comprehensive source for parents and for teachers, this comprehensive and practical book helps us understand, identify, and overcome reading problems related to dyslexia.
15. ABC to ADHD: What Parents Should Know About Dyslexia and Attention Problems
by Eric Tridas, M.D.
Written by an experienced team of physicians and neuropsychologists, this essential guide walks parents through topics that include the role of attention in reading; the causes of ADHD and dyslexia; and a range of instructional, behavioral, and medical management strategies, including a detailed analysis of medications and their side effects.
16. From High School to College: steps to Success for Students with Disabilities
by Elizabeth Hamblet (High school students and parents)
College is a different world from high school, and the laws, expectations, and culture around disability services and accommodations are different, too. Elizabeth Hamblet, a Columbia University Learning Specialist/Consultant and recognized transition speaker and writer, has written a one-of-a-kind, step-by-step guide that is an essential resource for college-bound students, their families, and the special educators and school counselors who work with them.

For strategies, encouragement, and inspiration:

17. Thinking Differently: An Inspiring Guide for Parents of Children with Learning Disabilities

by David Flink

An innovative, comprehensive guide to help parents understand and accept learning disabilities in their children, offering tips and strategies for successfully advocating on their behalf and helping them become their own best advocates.

18. How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character

by Paul Tough

The author argues that the qualities that matter more than intelligence have to do with character: skills like perseverance, curiosity, optimism, and self-control.

19. Your Hidden Superpowers: How the Whole Truth of Failure Can Change our Lives

by Becca North. Ph.D.

The author rewrites the story we tell ourselves about failure. She puts forth a captivating vision of how shifting our view of failure would change how we lead our lives, yielding profound benefits for us as individuals and as a society.

The Classics: Books with messages that endure the test of time.

- 649.1 BRO Brooks, Robert. ***Raising Resilient Children: Fostering Strength, Hope and Optimism in Your Child***. Chicago, IL: Contemporary Books, 2001.
- 618.92 HAL Hallowell, Edward M. ***When You Worry About The Child You Love: Emotional and Learning Problems in Children***. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 1996.
- 616.85 HAL Hallowell, Edward M. ***Driven to Distraction***. New York, NY: Simon and Schuster, 1994.
- 371.9 LAV Lavoie, Richard. ***It's So Much Work to Be Your Friend: Helping the Child with Learning Disabilities Find Social Success***. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2005.
- 616.85 QU *Quinn, Patricia. 100 Questions and Answers About ADHD In Women and Girls*. Canada; Jones and Bartlett Learning, 2011.
- 154 VAI Vail, Priscilla L. ***Emotion: The On/Off Switch for Learning***. Rosemont, NJ: Modern Learning Press, 1994.
- 371.95 VAI Vail, Priscilla L. ***Smart Kids with School Problems: Things to Know and Ways to Help***. New York, NY: New American Library, 1987.
- 375.4 VAI Vail, Priscilla L. ***Words Fail Me: How Language Works and What Happens When It Doesn't***. Rosemont, NJ: Modern Learning Press, 1996

371.3 VAI

Vail, Priscilla L. ***Learning Styles: Food for Thought and 130 Practical Tips for Teachers K – 4.*** Rosemont, NJ: Modern Learning Press, 1992.