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Recognize the Common Types of Learning Disability

By Benedict Smythe

The key to help learning disabled children cope with the disability is for parents to understand the type of problem. Identifying the problem will provide the various supports that parents will need to handle the difficulties of their child.

Furthermore, it is significant for parents to understand that learning disability is not a mental or emotional problem but rather, it affects the writing, speaking, listening and analytical skills of a child. Moreover, the symptoms and effects of learning disability may be different from one child to another.

Dyslexia is a reading disability wherein words and letters are mixed up.

The tendency of a dyslexic, an individual who suffers from dyslexia, is to reverse or invert letters in a word or words in a sentence thus affecting the reading skills. A dyslexic child may read or write the letter "d" as the letter "b" or may write the word "god" instead of "dog". Moreover, a child with dyslexia may have trouble in following road directions since he or she may have difficulty distinguishing left from right. Experts advise that parents read patiently to a child with dyslexia and explain that words are supposed to be read from left to right.

Dyscalculia is a mathematical disability.

Dyscalculia is a learning disability in which a child experiences difficulty in analyzing numbers and mathematical symbols. A child may have problems in counting numbers, inability to tell time or failure to tell what number comes before or after another number.

Aphasia or Receptive Language Disability makes comprehension difficult.

Aphasia or receptive language disability is associated with the difficulty of a child to comprehend the meaning of words affecting his or her ability to follow verbal instructions. An aphasic child may show signs of helplessness in speaking or pronouncing words or even repeating short phrases. To help an aphasic child, it is important to talk using eye contact and always use simple words and short instructions.

Expressive Language Disability

A child with expressive language disability finds it difficult to express his or her thoughts which result to poor sentence construction. The child is also incapable of using the right word for what he or she is thinking. Parents are advised to have frequent conversations with the child to encourage him or her to talk and express him or her self. Patience and use of positive words would help a child with expressive language disability.

Nonverbal learning disability cripples the child's motor and social skills.

A nonverbal learning disabled child is characterized by poor visualization skills. He or she learns faster through hearing than seeing. This disability is often times not recognized as a learning disability because the child may show signs of average or above average academic skills. The early ability of a nonverbal learning disabled child to read or speak is due to the strong hearing skill. However, as the child grows up and becomes exposed to the environment, he or she is incapable of keeping up with the learning abilities of children his or her age. The disability begins to affect his coordination and social skills.

Educators and parents should recognize the mental ability of nonverbal learning disabled children and find ways to discover how to help them cross the barrier between mental and actual images.

Grunty's day care nursery is a long established Nursery School based in Blackpool. Grunty's is part of Partington's Holiday Centres <http://www.gruntys.net/daycare/http://www.partingtons.com/>

Crying For Help -Warning Signs of Children's Learning Disability

By Benedict Smythe

According to a study, about six to ten percent of American children have learning disabilities. Learning disability or LD has no concrete definition because of its varied aspects but it is clear that a child suffering from LD experiences difficulties in the academics such as in the areas of speaking, writing, listening and reasoning.

Mathematical skills may also be slow. A child with learning disability can hear and see but finds it difficult to interpret these. While a child affected by LD has uneven learning patterns, experts do not agree that LD is a sign of mental or emotional disorders. The environment is also not a cause of learning disability.

General Learning Disability and Specific Learning Disability

A child affected by general learning disability has problems in all aspects of learning compared to children of his or her age. In some cases, children with general learning disability may require the care of others to do the basic things such as dressing and eating. Others may grow up independently.

Specific learning disability, on the other hand, refers to the difficulty of a child to learn some aspects but may find it easy to cope in other areas.

Possible causes of Learning Disability (LD)

Experts hypothesize that learning disability may be caused by genetics, birth infections, or early childhood injuries. Some were observed to have suffered frequent ear infections as a child. However, the prime causes of LD are still unknown. It is noteworthy that boys are often affected by learning disability than girls as revealed by the LD reports.

Warning signs of LD

It is not easy to know if a child is suffering from LD. A hyperactive and inattentive child is normal but parents must be able to get the hidden messages during these periods of inattentiveness and hyperactivity to recognize the warning signs.

The most common sign is the difficulty of a child to cope with the learning progress of other children his or her age. Other symptoms may include the following:

- Difficulty in recognizing colours and shapes
- Delay in learning to talk
- Poor test results
- Poor reading and writing skills as compared to children of his or her age
- Disinterest in books
- Inability to follow simple instructions
- Poor memory
- Difficulty in paying attention
- Slow in completing simple tasks
- Awkwardness

Parents can help the child with LD.

It is painful for a parent to know that his or her child has limitations in learning. A parent may find it frustrating to communicate to a child with learning disability. However, it is important to take note that a learning disabled child has a grasp of his or her emotions which cannot be expressed due to the disability.

While a parent may not fully get the concept of the problem, he or she should focus on the needs of a learning disabled child. Upon recognizing the warning signs, the parent must seek help from the school and request that the child be subjected to evaluations. Likewise, the parent should consult a paediatrician.

Denial about the symptoms should be avoided to prevent the quick progress of the learning disability of a child. Love and proper care are still the best ways to deal with a learning disabled child.

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