

## Awareness for Educators and Parents

***The Texas Dyslexia Handbook is available at [www.tea.texas.gov](http://www.tea.texas.gov)***

•**What is dyslexia?** Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a 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 the growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

•**Effective strategies:** Provide multisensory experiences, pre-teach vocabulary, allow time for processing at their own pace, graphic novels, provide audiobooks when needed, break down tasks, and use visual supports.

•**Characteristics of dyslexia:** Students with dyslexia may have difficulty mispronouncing words, mapping sounds to letters, auditory memory for rhymes, songs, and chants, blending words in isolation or reading unknown words, fluency, spelling, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing.

•**Possible accommodations for state testing as prescribed by the ARD/504 committee:** Reminders to stay on task, small group or individual testing, content and language supports, text-to-speech, speech-to-text, extra time, oral administration, spelling assistance, and writing predictor.

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***ISD Administers a universal Dyslexia Screening of students in first grade at the end of January and Kindergarten at the end of the year. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. (check all that apply)***

- ☐ Reading by Design
- ☐ TPRI
- ☐ iStation
- ☐ Circle Progress Monitoring
- ☐ mClass
- ☐ Other: (list) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Dyslexia Teacher Qualifications**

- Highly Qualified
- Trained in the program the district is using for students with dyslexia
- Documentation of dyslexia training
- Must deliver multisensory instruction with fidelity
- Must be trained in dyslexia and related disorders

**Audio Books available through:**

The Talking Book Program: [www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/index.html](http://www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/index.html)

Leaming Ally: <http://learningally.org>

Bookshare: [www.bookshare.org](http://www.bookshare.org)

Bright Solutions for Dyslexia: [www.dys-add.com](http://www.dys-add.com)

Diagnostician name/email:

Dyslexia Specialist name/e-mail:

Special Education Teacher name/e-mail: