

Characteristics of Dyslexia

Information for Parents



Why did I get a “characteristics of dyslexia” letter?

Tennessee schools are required to screen all students for characteristics of dyslexia. Receiving a letter does NOT mean your child has dyslexia. It simply means your child is having difficulty with one or more foundational reading skills.



What are schools doing to help?

All students who struggle with a foundational reading skill receive intervention through the school’s RTI program. You may be asked to give permission for the school to create an ILP-D for your child.

This is the school’s documented plan for providing supports for your child.



Schools do not diagnose dyslexia.

Dyslexia is usually diagnosed by a licensed psychologist or neuropsychologist. Schools can identify students with characteristics of dyslexia. About 1 in 5 students show some characteristics of dyslexia- some have a formal diagnosis but most do not.



What can parents do to help?

Read aloud with your child. Provide reading materials that interest your child.

Use audiobooks.

Look for apps to help with spell-check or to dictate notes.

Encourage your child; give praise for trying hard.

Let your child know that he/she can be successful!



Want to learn more?

