

Understanding Dyslexia

A Gift for Educators Resource

Dyslexia is a specific learning difference that primarily affects reading, spelling, and writing. It has nothing to do with intelligence — many brilliant, creative people are dyslexic.

Common experiences:

- Difficulty decoding words and sounding them out
- Slow or effortful reading
- Strong visual-spatial thinking and big-picture ideas

Strengths often seen: creativity, innovation, 3D thinking, storytelling, empathy, and entrepreneurial spirit.

Simple ways to support at home or school:

- Use audiobooks, text-to-speech, and visual aids
- Allow extra time for reading and writing tasks
- Focus on content and ideas rather than spelling in early drafts
- Teach phonics with multi-sensory methods

Dyslexia is not a deficit — it is a different wiring that brings extraordinary gifts when supported.