



Carla Grobler
Arbeidsterapeut
Occupational Therapist



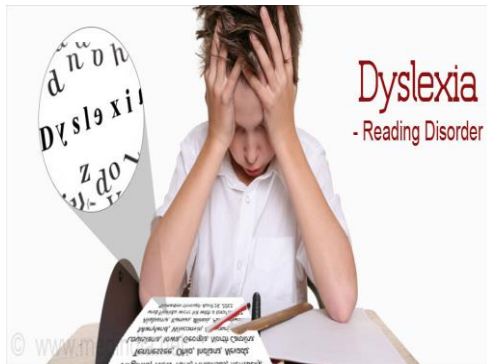
295 Charles Barry Ave
Bronberik (Hennospark)
Centurion

Pr No. 0660000080136

☎ 084 581 0644

✉ carla.grobler@vodamail.co.za
www.carlagrobler.co.za

Am I confusing left/right or is it Dyslexia ?



What does dyslexia look like?

- Confusing b/d
- Reverses letters/numbers
- Skips words/lines when reading
- Performs poorly in spellings tests
- Has anxiety when reading
- Guesses words when reading
- Reading and/or spelling below age level
- Knows the work when mom asked them at home but performs poorly in the exams
- Adds extra letters to words/
- omits letters
- Poor comprehension
- Poor sequential memory
- Day-dreamer
- Struggles to copy work from the blackboard

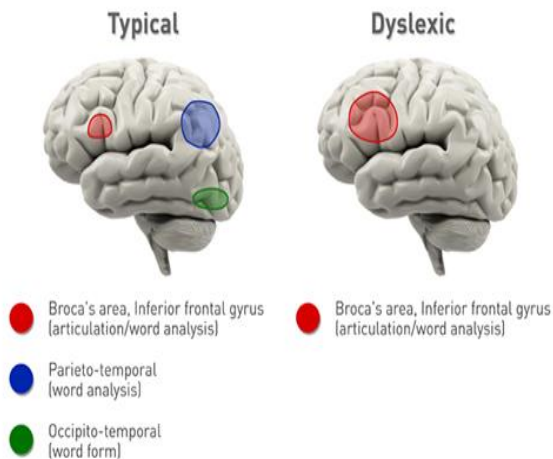
What does impaired laterality look like

- Confusing letters e.g. b/d
- Reversing some letters
- Swaps hand while performing tasks
- Turns the page more than 45 degrees
- Turns his body in the chair excessively when writing/drawing
- Moves to page to his dominant side
- Doesn't develop a dominant hand
- Kicks a ball/catches a ball with the foot/hand closest to the

- ball
- Cross dominant in eyes/hand/foot
- Will choose 1 hand for fine motor tasks and 1 hand for gross motor tasks

Control Centre

Typical Brain / Dyslexic Brain comparison



What is Dyslexia?

Neurological-functional problem manifesting as a deficit in word decoding (reading), encoding (spelling) and nemkinesia (writing) due to a minimal brain dysfunction and/or differential brain function

Types of dyslexia

- **Dysnemkinesia**
Deficit in the ability to develop motor gestalts (engrams) for written symbols, e.g., letters, and write them without reversals
- **Dysphonesia**
Deficit in visual-symbol and sound (grapheme-phoneme) integrations, and the inability to develop phonetic word analysis-synthesis skills
- **Dyseidesia**
Deficit in the ability to perceive whole words (total configuration) as visual gestalts and match them with auditory gestalts
- **Dysphoneidesia**
Deficit in grapheme-phoneme integration and in the ability to perceive whole words as visual gestalts and match them with auditory gestalts (Mixed dysphonetic and dyeidetic coding patterns)
- **Dysnemkinphonesia**
Deficit in the ability to develop motor gestalts for written symbols and in grapheme-phoneme integration (Mixed dynmekinetic and dyphonetic coding patterns)
- **Dysnemkineidesia**
Deficit in the ability to develop motor gestalts for written symbols and the ability to perceive whole words as visual gestalts and match them with auditory gestalts (Mixed dynmekinetic and dyseidetic coding patterns)
- **Dysnemkinphoneidesia**
Deficit in the ability to develop motor gestalts for written symbols, grapheme-phoneme integration, and tin perceiving whole words as visual gestalt and matching

them with auditory gestalts (Mixed dysnemkinetic, dyphonetic and dyseidetic coding patterns)

What is Laterality?

- Developing a dominant hand by the age of 5 year 6 months.
- Dominance starts to develop between 2 – 4 years old
- Only 5% of the population is truly ambidextrous

Midline-crossing and laterality goes hand in hand

- The body is divided into 2 vertical halves
- Some kids experience spatial disorganization when they cross their midline thus avoids it

Signs and Symptoms of Dyslexia

As under 'How does it present in the classroom'

Sign and symptoms of laterality and midline-crossing

- Will swop hands when approaching the midline e.g. transfer an object/crayon from one hand to another
- Turns the page more than 45 degrees (usually more) when colouring/drawing instead of crossing the midline
- Turns his/her body in a chair excessively when writing/drawing instead of crossing the midline
- Moves a page to the dominant side when writing/drawing instead of crossing the midline
- Doesn't develop a dominant hand; uses left hand on left side of body and right hand on right side of body
- Kicks a ball with the foot closest to the ball – not with 1 preferred foot
- Struggles to catch a ball when thrown off-centre as he/she doesn't want to cross the midline of the body with the hand/arm
- Cross dominance in eyes, hands and feet (not all dominance on the same side)
- Will choose one hand for fine motor skills and one hand for gross motor skills

Treatment for Dyslexia

Dyslexia can only be diagnosed from Gr. 3 term 3 by using the Stark Griffith Dyslexia Assessment (adapted for South Africa)

- Dyslexia Screening Test
- Dyslexia Determination Test

Refer for the child for:

- vision and eye muscle functioning evaluation
- play therapy for emotional support

OT: Occupational therapy

ST: Speech therapy

RT: Remedial teacher/therapist

- Dysnemkinesia
OT: Laterality/directionality
- Dysphonesia
ST and RT
- Dyseidesia
OT (Visual perceptual skills) and RT
- Dysphoneidesia

- ST, OT (Visual perceptual skills) and RT
- Dysnemkinphonesia
OT (laterality and directionality), ST and RT
- Dysnemkineidesia
OT (laterality, directionality and perception) and RT
- Dysnemkinphoneidesia
OT (laterality, directionality, perception), ST and RT

Treatment for laterality and midline-crossing limitation

- Occupational therapy

