

Risk Factors for Dyslexia

Risk factors for dyslexia include the following:

- History of language delay
- History of not attending to the sounds of words (trouble playing rhyming games with words, or confusing words that sound alike)
- Family history of specific reading difficulty

To help identify children at risk for dyslexia at the time of school entry, look for children who have difficulty with the following:

- Letter identification (naming)
- Letter-sound association (e.g., identifying words that begin with the same letter from a list: doll, dog, boat)
- Phonologic awareness (e.g., identifying the word that would remain if a particular sound were removed: if the “k” sound were taken away from “cat”)
- Verbal memory (e.g., recalling a sentence or a story that was just told)
- Rapid naming—quickly naming a continuous series of familiar objects, digits, letters, or colors
- Expressive vocabulary or word retrieval (e.g., naming single pictured objects)

See also

Bridge Topic: Learning Problems and Disorders, pp. XX–XX;

Tool for Families: Learning Disabilities: Common Signs, p. 143.

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