

Is your child struggling to learn to read?

How to tell if your Kindergarten or Grade 1 child needs help

A quick checklist for parents

By the end of JK, my child can:

Yes / No

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Correctly say some nursery rhymes or sing songs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Give the right answer to questions like "Do the words 'bug' and 'hug' rhyme? Do the words 'bug' and 'cat' rhyme?" | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Tell me the names of about 10 letters | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Tell me the names of 5 colors | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Recognize the numbers 1-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

By the end of SK, my child can:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Correctly answer questions like "Name a word that rhymes with 'take' and 'lake'?" (make, bake, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Clap the syllables (beats) in a word like 'pizza' (piz / za) or 'hamburger' (ham / bur / ger) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Give the right answer to questions like "What is the first sound in 'mat'? (mmm) What is the last sound in 'mat'? (tuh) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Tell me the names and sounds for most of the upper- and lowercase letters in the alphabet | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Say the alphabet correctly | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

By December of Gr. 1, my child can:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Tell me all the sounds in a 3-sound word such as 'dog' (d-o-g) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Read real words like 'bed' or 'hop' and nonsense words like 'hif' or 'gup' | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Automatically read some common words like 'the', 'was', 'come', 'said' and 'like' | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Print any letter of the alphabet from memory | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Read and print numbers 1-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



If you answered "No" to some of these questions, we urge you to investigate the possibility that your child may have dyslexia.

Facts about dyslexia

Dyslexia means that the wiring of a child's brain makes it difficult for him/her to learn to read.

- Dyslexia is the most common reason that people struggle with learning to read.
- People with dyslexia do not see letters or words backwards.
- Dyslexia is not related to intelligence.
- Dyslexia commonly runs in families and can range from mild to severe.
- Children with dyslexia may be mistakenly labelled as lazy or a slow learner.
- Dyslexia can be identified as early as Kindergarten.
- With early help, 95% of children with dyslexia can learn to read well.

What are the main warning signs for dyslexia?

1. Family history of problems learning to read.
2. Delay in learning to speak or in speaking clearly.
3. Trouble learning to rhyme, clap syllables, or tell what the first or last sound is in a word.
4. Trouble learning the letters of the alphabet.
5. Finds learning to read difficult.

What should I do?

The Ontario branch of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA Ontario) can help. We are a charitable organization that can provide you with information on what steps to take next. We're here to support you by providing resources and pointing you in the right direction for assessment and treatment options for your child. ***Don't wait - early help is the key to success!***

Visit our website to learn more about the warning signs of dyslexia, the science of reading, and effective instruction and remediation strategies.

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DYSLEXIA
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