

Does my child have a learning disability?

While testing is required to determine if a learning disability is present, there are signs that can alert parents that there may be a problem. Some things which may be normal in the young child, become “red flags” as the child gets older.

In the preschool/ kindergarten child, some things to look for would be difficulty with motor skills (Buttons, scissors, immature pencil grip), language development (delays in speech, difficulties naming objects, trouble naming letters), and social skills (difficulties with social interaction in a peer group).

While the above would also signal difficulty as the student grows older, in grades one to four, we can add difficulty with activities that require eye-hand coordination, difficulty rhyming, little interest in books, and difficulty understanding instructions. In the area of reading, we often see reversals (was/saw), and great difficulty learning to read. In writing we see reversals of letters, uneven spacing, and inaccurate copying.

In the upper grades, some common problems include difficulty proofreading and organizing written assignments, difficulty telling time and learning formulas and rules, slow reading and poor reading comprehension.

These are just a few of the signals that there may be a learning problem. All of these difficulties are addressed by our therapy.

For a more comprehensive checklist, go to www.LD.org.