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Topic: Learning Disability

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ABSTRACT

A learning disability is a neurological disorder. In simple terms, a learning disability results from a difference in the way a person's brain is "wired." Children with learning disabilities are smart as or smarter than their peers. But they may have difficulty reading, writing, spelling, reasoning and organising information if left to figure things out by them or if taught in conventional ways. A learning disability can't be cured or fixed; it is a lifelong issue. With the right support and intervention, however, children with learning disabilities can succeed in school and go on to successful, often distinguished careers later in life.

Learning disabilities are defined as "heterogeneous group of conditions wherein there is a deficit in processing language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself as a difficulty to comprehend, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations and includes such conditions as perceptual disabilities, dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, dyspraxia.

LDs do not become evident till the child starts going to school. Many children do not exhibit any signs until they engage in tasks which require certain kinds of cognitive processing which becomes apparent then.

Dyscalculia is generally characterised by difficulty in learning or understanding mathematical operations. A student with arithmetic disorder might have difficulty



Dysgraphia is generally characterised by distorted writing despite thorough instruction. A student with dysgraphia exhibits inconsistent and illegible writing, mixing upper and lowercase letters, and writing on a line and inside margins. He or she might have fine motor difficulties such as trouble holding the pencil correctly, inability to use scissors well, or colouring inside the lines.

Dyspraxia is a neurological disorder that impacts an individual's ability to plan and process motor tasks.

Individuals with dyspraxia often have language problems, and sometimes a degree of difficulty with thought and perception. Dyspraxia, however, does not affect the person's intelligence, although it can cause learning problems in children.

Developmental dyspraxia is an immaturity of the organization of movement. The brain does not process information in a way that allows for a full transmission of neural messages.

A person with dyspraxia finds it difficult to plan what to do, and how to do it.

General problems faced by a child with learning disabilities include:

Short attention span-easily distracted by what is going on in the surrounding ;

Perseveration: Attention becomes fixed upon a single task, difficulty in changing mental set;

Motor Problems: Inadequate coordination -Lack of adequate gross and fine coordination;

Poor Tactile:

-Has difficulty in discriminating shapes, textures size only through touching, lack adequate visual-motor memory; Language Problems Delayed or slow development of speech.

Objective: The objective of this article is to provide awareness about learning disabilities and the key concepts and misconceptions involved in it.

Method: Methodology used for this article is purely based upon narrative literature review, guided by the objective established for this article.

Result: Learning disabilities look very different from one child to another. One child may struggle with reading and spelling, while another loves books but can't understand maths. Still another child may have difficulty understanding what others are saying or communicating out loud. The problems are very different, but they are all learning disorders.




It's not always easy to identify learning disabilities. Because of the wide variations, there is no single symptom or profile that you can look to as proof of a problem. A learning disability affects the learning capacity of a person and using certain skills. The most often affected skills are reading, writing, listening, speaking, reasoning, and doing mathematics. Individuals with LD have difficulties with academic achievement and progress. Discrepancies exist between a person's potential for learning and what he actually learns. LD is not a single disorder, rather it is a group of disorders that affects people's ability to either interpret what they see and hear or to link information from different parts of the brain. A learning disability is a neurological disorder that affects the brain's ability to receive, process, store, and respond to information. It can affect attention, memory, coordination, social skills, and emotional maturity of a person. Individuals with LD have normal intelligence, or are sometimes even intellectually gifted. The term learning disability is used to explain the difficulty a person of average intelligence encounters in attaining basic academic skills.

Conclusion: Learning disabilities are common disorders that affect people in their childhood and even adulthood. Studies have established that the perceptions that people have regarding learning disabilities are wrong and unfounded. People with this challenge are not lazy, dumb, or insensitive like people believe. However, they have an intellectual capacity of a normal human being, only that their nervous system receives and translates the information in a different manner. Studies have established that there are four major types of learning disabilities. These categories of learning disabilities are dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia, and dyspraxia. People with this disorder often deal with unique life challenges that spread throughout their lives. Individuals with learning disabilities have an equal chance to succeed, just like those not suffering from the condition as long as they are provided with the right support from when the disorders are first identified.



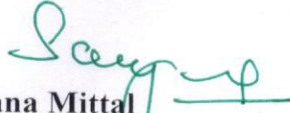
Key words: Learning disability, Learning disorder, dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia, dyspraxia.

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