

Learning Disability: Detection, Manifestation, Correction



Introduction

The *goal* of the report is to give a system description of types of a Learning Disability (LD).

The *tasks* are:

to give a scientific definition of LD;

to classify LD;

to reveal signs of LD;

to determine causes of LD;

to work out recommendations to cope with LD.

Object of the study: Students with LD.

Subject of the study: LD.

The research is done using *methods* of analysis and synthesis of special scientific literature, documents and acts.

The practical value of the research is accounted by the fact that its provisions make up a set of practical recommendations for pre-service teachers and teachers of primary classes.

Definition

Learning disability is a general term that describes specific kinds of learning problems. A learning disability can cause a person to have trouble learning and using certain skills. The skills most often affected are reading, writing, listening, speaking, reasoning, and doing math.



The Nation's Special Education Law, “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act”, defines a specific learning disability as . . .

". . . a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or do mathematical calculations, including conditions such as *perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia.*"



The Signs of a Learning Disability

There is no one sign that shows a person has a learning disability. Experts look for a noticeable difference between how *well* a child *does in school* and how well he or she could do, given his or her intelligence or ability.

When a child has a learning disability, he or she:

- 1) may have trouble learning the alphabet, rhyming words, or connecting letters to their sounds;
- 2) may make many mistakes when reading aloud, and repeat and pause often;
- 3) may not understand what he or she reads;
- 4) may have real trouble with *spelling*;
- 5) may have very messy handwriting or hold a pencil awkwardly;
- 6) may struggle to express ideas in writing;
- 7) may learn language late and have a limited vocabulary etc.



What About School?

Learning disabilities tend to be diagnosed when children reach school age. This is because school focuses on the very things that may be difficult for the child — reading, writing, math, listening, speaking, reasoning.



With hard work and the proper help, children with LD can learn more easily and successfully.

For school-aged children (including preschoolers), special education and related services are important sources of help. *School staff* work with the child's parents to develop an *Individualized Education Program (IEP)*. This document describes the child's unique needs.

Causes

No one's exactly sure what causes learning disabilities. But researchers do have some theories as to why they develop.

They include:

Genetic influences.

Experts have noticed that learning disabilities tend to run in families and they think that *heredity* may play a role.

Brain development.

Some experts think that learning disabilities can be traced to brain development, both before and after birth.

Environmental

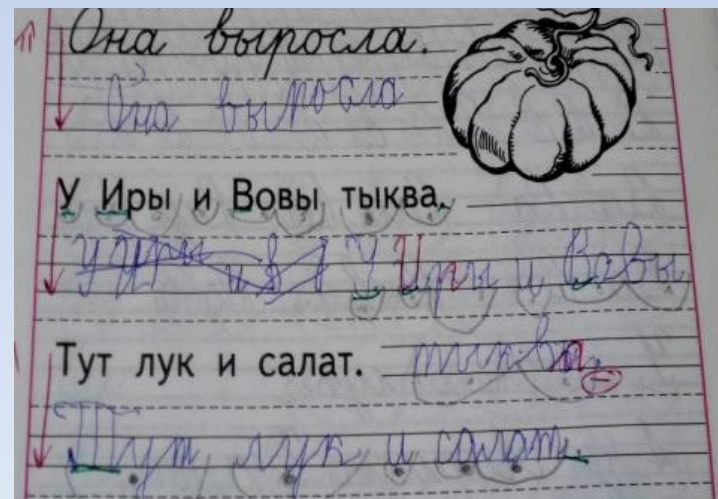
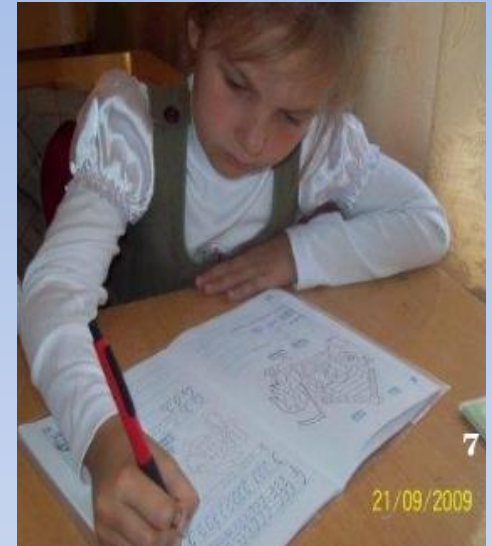
impacts. Infants and young children *are susceptible* to environmental toxins (poisons).

Types of Learning Disabilities

Specific types of learning disabilities include:

Dysgraphia

An individual with dysgraphia has a difficult time with the physical task of forming letters and words using a pen and paper and has difficulty producing *legible handwriting*.



Dyscalculia

A person with dyscalculia has difficulty understanding and using math concepts and symbols.



Dyslexia



An individual with dyslexia may mix up letters within words and sentences while reading. He may have difficulty spelling words correctly while writing. *Letter reversals* are common. Some individuals with dyslexia have a difficult time with navigating and routefinding tasks as they are easily confused by directions and *spatial information* such as left and right.

Dyspraxia

A person with dyspraxia may mix up words and sentences while talking. There is often a discrepancy between language comprehension and language production.



Non-verbal Learning Disorder

Poor motor coordination, visual-spatial organization and/or a lack of social skills may characterize non-verbal learning disorders.



Coping with a Learning Disability in the USA

There's no cure for a learning disability. And you *don't outgrow* it. But it's never too late to get help. Most people with learning disabilities learn to adapt to their learning differences, and they learn strategies that help them *accomplish their goals and dreams*.



Some students who have been diagnosed with a learning disability work with a special teacher or tutor for a few hours a week to learn special study skills, note-taking strategies, or organizational techniques that can help them compensate for their learning disability.





Some schools develop what is called an Individualized Education Program (IEP), which helps define a person's learning strengths and weaknesses and make a plan for the learning activities that will help the student do his or her best in school.

Medication is often prescribed to help students with ADHD. There are several medicines on the market today to help improve a student's *attention span* and ability to focus and to help control impulses and other hyperactive behavior.



Learning Disabilities and the Family

Every child needs to grow up feeling competent and loved. When children have learning disabilities, parents may need to work harder at developing their children's self-esteem and relationship-building skills. But self-esteem and good relationships are *as worth developing as any academic skill*.



Conclusion

- Learning disability of kids is quite a problem, but very often parents fail to see this problem. A long-term observation of the kids allows the parents to detect manifestations of certain troublesome behavior in their kids that might cause difficulties in learning. The early detection of learning disabilities, taking necessary measures to correct them is a sound provision for their progress in learning process.

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Thanks for your attention!

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