

Dyslexia and Reading Programs Fact Sheet

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Structured Literacy

'The term "Structured Literacy" is not designed to replace Orton Gillingham, Multi-Sensory or other terms in common use. It is an umbrella term designed to describe all of the programs that teach reading in essentially the same way'. Hal Malchow. President, International Dyslexia Association

What to look for in a Program:

- *Explicit or direct instruction*
- *Structured literacy*
- *Systematic and cumulative*
- *Encourages mastery before progression*
- *Ongoing assessment*
- *Researched based*
- *Includes **phonemic awareness ,phonics, fluency, vocabulary knowledge and reading comprehension.***

Recommended Reading Programs

Cracking the ABC Code

<http://crackingtheabccode.com/>

"Cracking the ABC Code provides evidence-based programs designed to systematically teach literacy skills to students struggling with reading and spelling. The phonic-based, multisensory material utilises well-research literacy learning principles and strategies." Dr Lillian Fawcett

Understanding Words

<http://www.understandingwords.com.au>

"*Understanding Words*® is actually three programs: Reading Accuracy: Foundations, Reading Accuracy: Advanced Decoding, and the Comprehension program." *Understanding Words*

Little Learners Love Literacy

<http://www.learninglogic.com.au/about-us>

"The *Little Learners Love Literacy* is sequenced into 7 stages to teach children the 44 sounds of the English alphabet. It is efficient teaching both reading and spelling." *Little learners love Literacy*

Multilit Programs

<http://www.multilit.com/>

Multilit is a program that has come out of the research of the highly regarded MUSEC department at Macquarie University. It has been updated as new research on reading comes to light. "*MultiLit* offers both the Reading Tutor Program and the Word Attack Skills – Extension Program online, delivered by our tutors in a similar way to attending the Literacy Centre." *Multilit*

"The MultiLit Research Unit was then to provide a focus for systematic scientific inquiry into how best to meet the instructional needs of students who are struggling to acquire basic reading and related skills, for whatever reason." *Multilit*

Barton Reading and Spelling System

<http://www.bartonreading.com/>

Susan Barton is a highly regarded dyslexia specialist. This system is designed to be implemented at home. Often the levels can be purchased second hand. It is American so some spelling has to be adapted.

"The *Barton Reading & Spelling System* is an Orton–Gillingham influenced phonics intervention program unique in that it is designed for individuals with and without formal training in teaching reading." *Barton reading and Spelling System*

Toe by Toe

<http://www.toe-by-toe.co.uk/>

Toe by Toe is similar to *Multilit* in design. It needs to be done frequently in small amounts and is effective when used according to instructions. It is not multisensory and can be a little dull but is effective for many children.

Alpha to Omega

<http://www.dyslexiaactionshop.co.uk/alphatoomegateachershandbook.html>

Orton Gillingham book based program with teacher guide and student books. Can be used in conjunction with Word Shark program.

"For over 30 years, the *Alpha to Omega* programme has offered practical help in teaching reading, writing and spelling to adults and children with learning difficulties, including dyslexia. By following closely the normal pattern of phonological language acquisition, the *Alpha to Omega* course helps to accelerate students' learning." *Alpha to Omega*

All About Learning Press

<http://www.allaboutlearningpress.com/>

A multisensory Orton Gillingham booklet program easily implemented at home.

"*All About Reading* is a complete program that teaches phonics, decoding, fluency, and comprehension in a fun and engaging way. *All About Spelling* teaches encoding skills, spelling rules, and multisensory strategies to help your student become a proficient speller for life."

Jolly Phonics

<http://jollylearning.co.uk/overview-about-jolly-phonics/>

"*Jolly Phonics* is a fun and child centred approach to teaching literacy through synthetic phonics. With actions for each of the 42 letter sounds, the multi-sensory method is very motivating for children and teachers, who can see their students achieve. The letter sounds are split into seven groups as shown below." *Jolly Phonics*

Read Write Inc.

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/read-write-inc-programmes/phonics/>

"*Read Write Inc. Phonics* is a complete literacy programme, for 4 to 7 year-olds learning to read and write and for 7 and 8 year-olds needing to catch up quickly." *Read Write inc.*

Beat Dyslexia

Available at online book stores and education retailers

"*Beat Dyslexia* is designed to help any child, teenager or adult who is struggling to read, write or spell. Full of variety and using a wide range of imaginative approaches, each pack in the *Beat Dyslexia* series is structured so that all the goals are small and attainable. Students gain confidence through success as they develop a sound understanding of basic spelling and grammar.' ACER

Spelfabet

<http://www.spelfabet.com.au/>

Alison Clarke is a highly respected speech pathologist who has an excellent blog and many resources online. She is a valuable member of Dyslexia Support Australia. She also has a resource list of recommended books, programs and software. She sells online affordable downloadable resources.

Phonics International

http://www.phonicsinternational.com/new_buy_now.html

http://www.phonicsinternational.com/Brief_overview_of_Phonics_International_in_a_nutshell.pdf

"*Phonics International* as a spelling programme:

Please note that the order of introducing the letter/s-sound correspondences can be planned flexibly when *Phonics International* is used as a spelling programme for older learners. Focus on a specific sound, for example, and teach all the spelling alternatives for that sound using resources from whichever units the focus sound is featured. Alternatively, look at the level of vocabulary in the core Sounds Book Activity Sheets and parallel I can read texts and Questions to ascertain their suitability for providing language comprehension and spelling word bank activities.

Phonics International as an intervention programme:

Phonics International can be used as an 'intervention programme' for learners of all ages with gaps in their alphabetic code knowledge and/or weak phonics skills." *Phonics International*

Reading Doctor Programs and Apps

<http://www.readingdoctor.com.au/>

There is a reading program and a range of apps. Apps like WORDBUILDER are designed not to be stand alone but work really well alongside programs.

"*Reading Sounds*™ 1 Pro uses a unique, highly effective, patented system to teach children to associate letters and letter patterns with the sounds they make. It also teaches blending, segmentation, sight word recognition and other key literacy skills found through research to be crucial in the development of reading and spelling ability. The program automatically adjusts learning support for each student. It identifies each student's skill strengths and weaknesses. It spends less time on established skills, and more time with more support on areas of skill weakness, leading to fast and effective learning. It is ideal for children aged between 4 and 8 years old, although it is suitable for older children who are experiencing reading difficulties." *Reading Doctor*

Nessy Learning Program and Apps

U.K. online access by subscription

<http://www.nessy.com/uk/>

Go online for a trial game and many of the animated rules are available on YouTube. The apps are nowhere near as comprehensive as the full program.

"The Nessy approach to learning has been developed by a team of experienced specialist teachers at the Bristol Dyslexia Centre. Nessy programs use a combination of strategies and games. All the learning techniques are developed in the classroom. Once they have proved to be effective, they are transferred into a digital program. The unique blend of Nessy characters, humour and rewards engages children in the learning activities." *Nessy Reading Program*

Wordshark

<http://www.wordshark.co.uk/wordshark/wordshark-home-use.aspx>

Wordshark can be difficult to use so requires a fair bit of parental input. It is designed to be used in conjunction with the Alpha to Omega Program.

"Wordshark is a computer program that combines the fun and excitement of bright, multi-sensory games with the serious task of learning to read and spell. More than 60 colourful games have been designed by teachers to teach and reinforce reading and spelling using over 9,000 pre-recorded words. The varied combinations of games and word lists create both variety and motivation." *Word Shark*

Units of Sound

<http://www.unitsofsound.net/>

"Units of Sound is a proven tool for teaching students in schools, colleges and community centres who need support with their literacy. With a screening placement, student progress display and a screen tutor to show students how to use the programme correctly, Units of Sound enables all students to learn independently." *Units of Sound*

Phonics Hero Apps

<https://www.phonicshero.com/about/>

"The methodology underpinning *Phonics Hero* (formally known as Get Reading Right Digital) comes from the school based Synthetic Phonics program, Get Reading Right." *Phonics Hero*

"Findings from the research evidence indicate that all students learn best when teachers adopt an integrated approach to reading that explicitly teaches:

phonemic awareness

phonics

fluency

vocabulary knowledge

comprehension."

Rowe, Ken and National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy (Australia), "Teaching Reading" (2005).

"LDA supports approaches to reading instruction that adopt an explicit structured approach to the teaching of reading and are consistent with the scientific evidence as to how children learn to read and how best to teach them.

Programs that follow an explicit structured approach to the teaching of reading include as an integral part of the teaching program specific instruction in phonology, sound-symbol associations, as well as syllable structures, morphology, syntax and semantics as a basis for developing accurate and fluent word reading and reading comprehension. Such programs conform to the definition of 'structured literacy programs' as adopted by the International Dyslexia Association in July 2014." Approaches to Reading Instruction Supported by the LDA." *Learning Difficulties Australia* 2015

"There are no universally effective programs, but here are knowable principles that need to be incorporated in all programs about how we teach written language." Wolf, Maryanne. *Proust and the Squid: The Story and Science of the Reading Brain*. Cambridge: Icon, 2010. Print.

"..coherent design includes explicit instructional strategies that address students' specific strengths and weaknesses, coordinated instructional sequences, ample practice opportunities and aligned student materials, and may include the use of targeted, scientifically based instructional strategies as appropriate." National Research Council; Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education;"Preventing Reading Difficulties in Young Children." The National Academies Press. 01 Jan. 1999. Web. 31 Mar. 2017.

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Interventions NOT recommended by AUSPELD

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- Davis Dyslexia
- Reading Recovery
- Cogmed
- Cellfield
- Fast Forward
- Coloured glasses or overlays
- Auditory retraining
- Various brain training programs such as Arrowsmith or Luminosity

Reference: Understanding Learning Difficulties A guide for Parents

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