Dyslexia, an In-dept Study

Abstract

Introduction:

Dyslexia is a learning disability that affects approximately eight to ten percent of the western population. The type of dyslexia discussed in this paper is developmental dyslexia. It is important because it affects so many people. My inquiry question is, “What is dyslexia and what strategies can be used to help children with dyslexia learn?”

Dyslexia:

• is defined as, “a specific problem with reading and spelling that cannot be accounted for by low intelligence, poor educational opportunities, or obvious sensory or neurological damage (International, p. 1).”
• is hereditary.
• is a learning disability that can be overcome.
• is a difficulty with word recognition, spelling, reading and writing.
• is a disability that can be overcome, in many cases, by multisensory teaching
• is not more common in boys than in girls.
• is not just an excuse for being lazy.
• is not necessarily a sign that someone is very creative.

Research:

The most useful research came from three books, Dyslexia, by Paula Wiltshire; Overcoming Dyslexia, by Sally Shaywitz, M.D; and Is It In Your Genes, by Phillip Reilly. Other research included Encyclopedias, internet articles and a personal interview.

Conclusions:

Dyslexia is a disability that with the appropriate help can be overcome and the affected person can lead relatively normal life. The help involves the use of multisensory teaching methods. The term, ‘dyslexia,’ is however, very vague. It is not really used in the school setting these days as teachers and administrators need more defining terms to pinpoint learning disabilities.

Resources:


