

What to do if...

... you want to prepare a student with learning disorder to exam session?

Exams and Dys

Students with learning disorders may have difficulty reading and interpreting meaning or which can have a massive impact during assignments and exams. Moreover, the anxiety and fear of failure can enhance those difficulties.

Things that you can do:

- Use different forms of evaluation: written, oral, practical, portfolio
- Oral testing or teacher tape records the test student listens to each question then student dictates each answer into a second tape recorder. If no oral testing: give extended time student can complete test at home under parental supervision or shorten the test
- Allow the use of computers or other technological devices if the child requires it and can use the keyboard (reduce fatigue for children with dysgraphia, facilitate the organization at dyspraxic children, allow the use of spell-checker).
- Allow open-book and open-notes tests or allow students to bring one page of notes to the test
- Teach children to organize revision notes
- Reduce the revision workload Separate well different types of exercises, ideally one exercise on one page
- Do not penalize spelling unless during dictation If any student gets a poor grade on a test: allow student to retake the test or allow student to earn extra credit
- Offer many small quizzes rather than one or two big exams
- Promote participation and encourage trying
- Organize a class calendar where you can mark upcoming tests and assignments

Tools recommendation:

Click on the words here under: they are links that send you to a specialised Website.

- Animoto – an app that allows students to make a short video of what they learned in a lesson
- Audionote – helps children to have a combination of a voice recorder and notepad
- Classclick - an app which allows teachers to post assignments for students, where both the teacher and peers can provide feedback on the assignment and helps students to monitor their progress and work