

## Does My Child Have Dyslexia?

Information obtained from the Central Ohio Branch of International Dyslexia Association (COBIDA), [www.cobida.org](http://www.cobida.org)

### What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a language-based learning disability. Dyslexia refers to a cluster of symptoms, which result in people having difficulties with specific language skills, particularly reading. Students with dyslexia usually experience difficulties with other language skills such as spelling, writing, and pronouncing words. Dyslexia affects individuals throughout their lives; however, its impact can change at different stages in a person's life. It is referred to as a learning disability because dyslexia can make it very difficult for a student to succeed academically in the typical instructional environment, and in its more severe forms, will qualify a student for special education, special accommodations, or extra support services.

### What causes Dyslexia?

The exact causes of dyslexia are still not completely clear, but anatomical and brain imagery studies show differences in the way the brain of a dyslexic person develops and functions. Most people with dyslexia have been found to have problems with identifying the separate speech sounds within a word and/or learning how letters represent those sounds, a key factor in their reading difficulties. Dyslexia is not due to either lack of intelligence or desire to learn; with appropriate teaching methods, dyslexics can learn successfully.

The causes for dyslexia are neurobiological and genetic. Individuals inherit the genetic links for dyslexia. Chances are that one of the child's parents, grandparents, aunts, or uncles is dyslexic.

### What are the signs of Dyslexia?

The problems displayed by individuals with dyslexia involve difficulties in acquiring and using language--reading and writing letters in the wrong order is just one manifestation of dyslexia and does not occur in all cases. Other problems experienced by dyslexics include:

- Hidden reading problems
- Poor spelling
- Avoids writing; may not be able to write
- Often very competent in oral language
- Relies on memory; may have an excellent memory
- Often has good "people" skills
- May have difficulty planning, organizing, managing time, materials and tasks.

*Imagine ~  
Every Child Reading*



Signs of dyslexia in young, preschool children include talking later than expected, a slowness to add new words, difficulty rhyming, and trouble following multistep directions. After a child begins school, the signs of dyslexia include:

- Difficulty reading single words, such as a word on a flashcard
- Difficulty learning the connection between letters and sounds
- Confusing small words, such as **at** and **to**
- Letter reversals, such as **d** for **b**
- Word reversals, such as **tip** for **pit**

Having one of these signs does not mean your child has dyslexia; many children reverse letters before the age of 7. If several signs exist and reading problems persist, or if you have a family history of dyslexia, you may want to have your child evaluated.

### About COBIDA

The Central Ohio Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (COBIDA) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization formed to increase the public's awareness of dyslexia in Central and South Eastern Ohio and parts of West Virginia. It is one of 47 branches of International Dyslexia Association (IDA) in the country and the most recent branch to be formed in Ohio (1997). Sister Ohio branches include the Ohio Valley Branch located in Cincinnati and the Northern Ohio Branch in Cleveland.

For general information please email: [info@cobida.org](mailto:info@cobida.org). For further information about tutoring, evaluations or advocacy, please call the COBIDA Helpline at 614.899.5711 or email: [helpline@cobida.org](mailto:helpline@cobida.org) (Include your name, phone number, email, the area you live in plus zip code, age of your child and the type of information you are seeking.)

COBIDA's Mission Statement:

- (1) to increase awareness of dyslexia and related learning disabilities;
- (2) to assist professionals, dyslexics and their families;
- (3) to promote use of effective teaching methods; and
- (4) to disseminate research-based knowledge.

COBIDA has developed a three-tiered plan to accomplish this mission:

Training and Education  
Early Intervention  
Community Partnerships

## ¿Tiene Mi Niño(a) Dislexia?

Información obtenida de la Oficina en Central Ohio de la Asociación Internacional de Dislexia (COBIDA siglas en Inglés), [www.cobida.org](http://www.cobida.org)

### ¿Qué es Dislexia?

La dislexia es una discapacidad específica del aprendizaje basada en lenguaje. Se refiere a una combinación de síntomas los cuales se caracterizan por la dificultad para reconocer palabras en forma precisa y fluida. Estudiantes con dislexia usualmente experimentan dificultades con otras habilidades como deletreo, escritura y pronunciando letras. Por lo general, estas dificultades provienen de una deficiencia en el componente fonológico de lenguaje que generalmente no se junta con otras destrezas de tipo cognitivo y con una instrucción académica efectiva. Dislexia afecta a individuos por toda su vida, como sea, este impacto puede cambiar en diferentes etapas de la vida de la persona. Dislexia es referida como una discapacidad de aprendizaje porque puede hacer bien difícil al estudiante tener éxito académicamente dentro del

ambiente típico de aprendizaje, y en su forma más severa, va a calificar al estudiante para educación especial, acomodaciones especiales o servicios de ayuda extra.

### ¿Qué Causa la Dislexia?

Exactamente las causas de dislexia no están del todo claras, pero anatómicamente diferentes estudios de las imágenes cerebrales de personas con dislexia han demostrado diferencias en el desarrollo y funciones en diferentes áreas del cerebro. A la mayoría de las personas con dislexia se les ha encontrado que tienen problemas identificando y separando los diferentes sonidos de habla en una palabra y/o aprendiendo como las letras representan esos sonidos. Una de las claves más importantes al leer. Dislexia no es debido a falta de inteligencia o deseo de aprender; con métodos apropiados de enseñanza, personas con dislexia pueden exitosamente aprender.

Las causas para la dislexia son neurológicas y genéticas. Individuos heredan los lazos genéticos de dislexia. Probabilidades son que uno de los padres del niño, abuelos, tíos o tías es disléxico.

### ¿Cuáles son los Signos de Dislexia?

Los problemas que los individuos con dislexia tienen involucran dificultades en la adquisición y el uso de lenguaje—lectura y escritura de letras de orden equivocado es una de las manifestaciones de dislexia y no ocurre en todos los casos. Otros problemas experimentados por las personas con dislexia incluyen:

- Esconden los problemas de lectura
- Pobre deletreo
- No le gusta escribir; pudiera no poder escribir
- A menudo muy competente en lenguaje oral
- Se apoya en su memoria, pueden tener excelente memoria

- Muchas veces tienen buena "habilidad con las personas"
- Pueden tener dificultades con planeamiento, organización, manejando su tiempo, material o tareas.

Señales de dislexia en niños preescolares; incluye comenzar hablar tardado, dificultad con rimas, y problemas con instrucciones de varios pasos, Después de que un niño comienza la escuela, las señales de dislexia incluyen;

- Carece de comprensión que las palabras contienen partes o sonidos
- Dificultad para aprender los nombres de las letras y sus correspondientes sonidos
- Lectura imprecisa o dificultosa
- Dificultad para descifrar palabras individuales como **at** y **to**
- Reversa letras, tales como la **d** por la **b**
- Reversa palabras, tales como **tip** por **pit**

Tener uno de estas señales no significa que su niño tiene dislexia, muchos niños reversan letras antes de los 7 años de edad. Si hay señales severas existentes y los problemas de lectura persisten, o un miembro en su familia tiene historia de dislexia, es buena idea hacer una evaluación a su niño.

### Acerca de COBIDA

La Oficina Central de Ohio de la Asociación Internacional de Dislexia (COBIDA por sus siglas en Inglés) es una organización sin fines de lucro 501 (c) (3) formada para incrementar la conciencia pública en el Centro y el Sureste de Ohio y partes de West Virginia. Es una de las 47 oficinas de la Asociación Internacional de Dislexia (IDA por sus siglas en inglés) en el país y es la oficina más reciente creada en Ohio (1997). Otras oficinas hermanas en Ohio incluyen Ohio Valley localizada en Cincinnati y el Noreste Ohio en Cleveland.

Para cualquier información por favor enviar su correo electrónico a: [info@cobida.org](mailto:info@cobida.org). Para información acerca de tutorías, evaluaciones o

abogacía, por favor llamar a la línea de ayuda de COBIDA al 614.899.5711 o email: [helpline@cobida.org](mailto:helpline@cobida.org) (Incluya su nombre, número de teléfono, email, la área en donde vive y su código postal, la edad de su niño y el tipo de información que anda buscando).

## Dyslexia Family Support Group in Ohio

Upper Arlington – Kids  
Identified with Dyslexia

[www.ua-kid.com](http://www.ua-kid.com)



Debbie Segor recently provided OCECD with information about her dyslexia parent support group in Upper Arlington. She is one of the founders. UA-KID was formed in September 2010 by a group of parents, now about 12 families strong, who had to fight for their dyslexic children's educational rights. The group was formed after the parents obtained information from another parent group in Solon, Ohio.

The group attends school board meetings and interviews board members when they are up for election so that they have correct information about dyslexia and students rights. Many fathers are involved and regularly attend meetings, which is helpful.

They advocate for the district to provide professional development for the teachers so that they can recognize dyslexia and better teach children with this common reading disability. This has led to the district becoming more aware of the issues and they are now hiring trained, qualified personnel who can effectively contribute to their children learning to their highest potential. Early Intervention and proper support at school can help students significantly.

Their mission is to create a culture of change and to promote awareness of dyslexia among parents, teachers and administration in Upper Arlington (UA) and to serve students with dyslexia and related learning disorders to ensure that they reach their maximum potential.

### UA-KID Objectives:

1. To ensure universal dyslexia/reading disability screenings for all kindergartners and any new students entering the district.
2. To ensure that a scientifically-based core reading program is implemented in grades K - 3rd which aligns with the National Reading Panel Report to include: Phonological Awareness, Phonics Fluency, Vocabulary and Comprehension.
3. To ensure that the intervention for dyslexic students at all grade levels is scientifically-based with attention to frequency, intensity, duration and fidelity.
4. To ensure that progress monitoring and assessments are science-based, quantifiable and objective.
5. To ensure that staff and administrators receive the best, most up-to-date professional development to empower them to feel confident in their ability to teach any child to read.
6. To promote collaboration between parents and schools in UA to address and meet the needs of students identified with dyslexia and related learning disorders under state and federal laws.

UA-KID has a parent-friendly website with many resources, books, videos, and links to organizations. They have upcoming events posted for a group trying to start up meetings in the Blacklick area.

Please visit their website at [www.ua-kid.com](http://www.ua-kid.com) or email them at [info@uakid.com](mailto:info@uakid.com).

## Grupo de Apoyo Local para Padres en Ohio

Upper Arlington – Kids Identified with Dyslexia (Niños Identificados con Dislexia en español)  
[www.ua-kid.com](http://www.ua-kid.com)



Debbie Segor recientemente le proporciono a OCECD información acerca de su grupo de apoyo para padres de niños con dislexia en Upper Arlington. Ella es una de los fundadores. De UA-KID el cual se formo en Septiembre del 2010, ahora este grupo cuenta con 12 familias, quienes han abogado por los derechos educativos de los niños con dislexia. Este grupo fue basado de la información obtenida de otro grupo de padres en Solon, Ohio. Muchos padres están involucrados y asisten regularmente a las reuniones, las cuales son muy útiles. Los miembros del grupo asisten a las reuniones con la junta directiva de la escuela y entrevistan a los miembros de la junta cuando están en su elección para que ellos tengan la información correcta acerca de dislexia y los derechos de los estudiantes.

También recomiendan al distrito proporcionar entrenamientos para el desarrollo profesional de los maestros y de esta manera ellos puedan reconocer que es dislexia y aprender a cómo enseñar mejor a los alumnos con esta discapacidad que es tan común en lectura.

Esto tiene lleva al distrito que llega a ser más enterado de los asuntos y de ellos ahora emplean el personal entrenados y calificados que puede contribuir efectivamente a sus niños que aprende a su potencial más alto. La Intervención temprana y el apoyo apropiado pueden ayudar al colegio a estudiantes apreciablemente.

Esto hace que el distrito este más enterado de los asuntos y ahora están empleando a personal entrenado y calificado quienes

pueden contribuir efectivamente al aprendizaje de sus niños con un alto potencial. Intervención Temprana y el apoyo apropiado en la escuela puede ayudar significativamente a los estudiantes.

Su misión es crear una cultura de cambio y promover conciencia entre los padres, maestros y la administración en Upper Arlington (UA) acerca de Dislexia y ayudar a servir a los estudiantes con dislexia y desordenes de aprendizaje relacionados para asegurar que puedan alcanzar su más alto potencial.

### Objetivos:

1. Asegurar evaluaciones universales de dislexia/discapacidades de lectura a todos los niños en kindergarten y cualquier nuevo estudiante entrando al distrito por primera vez.
2. Asegurar que programas de lectura científicamente basados sean implementados en grados K-3 los cuales están en alineamiento con el National Reading Panel Report para incluir: Conciencia Fonética, Vocabulario y Comprensión.
3. Asegurar que la intervención para estudiantes con dislexia en todos los grados sea científicamente basada con atención a frecuencia, intensidad, duración y fidelidad.
4. Asegurar que el monitoreo de progreso y las evaluaciones sean científicamente basadas, objetivas y cuantificables.
5. Asegurar que el personal y los administradores reciban el mejor, lo más reciente en desarrollo profesional para apoyarlos a sentirse confidentes en su habilidad de enseñar a los niños a leer.
6. Promover colaboración entre padres y las escuelas in UA para satisfacer las necesidades de los estudiantes identificados con dislexia y desordenes relacionados de aprendizaje bajo las leyes estatales y federales.

Tienen una página electrónica con muchos recursos, libros, videos y links a organizaciones. Visitar [www.ua-kid.com](http://www.ua-kid.com) o por correo electrónico [info@uakid.com](mailto:info@uakid.com).

## Featured Books

### *Reflections of Erin, the Importance of Belonging, Relationships, and Learning with Each Other*

Author *Barbara McKenzie*



When her daughter Erin was born and diagnosed with a disability, mother and author Barbara McKenzie realized how much she had to learn about welcoming everyone and discovering the gifts in each of us.

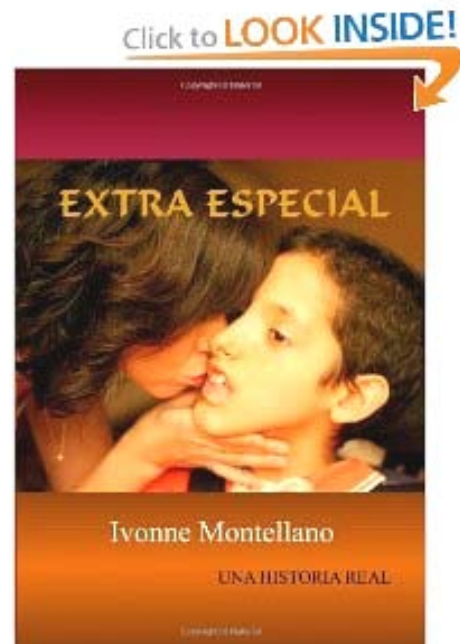
Throughout Erin's short life, her mother shared observations, surprises, and reflections inspired as Erin and her family made new connections and relationships. Some narratives, thoughts from Erin's friends, and a beautiful collection of photographs tell this story of inclusion.

"We were both moved and inspired by this book. In her short life, Erin was able to show us more about what is possible than all the research in the field. **Every apprehensive educator or parent needs to have this book in hand.**" - Norman Kunc and Emma Van der Klift, authors of *Credo for Support*.

[OCECD is offering the book for \\$5.00 each to cover shipping and handling, while supplies last.](#) Please call 1-800-374-2806, ext. 20, to obtain your copy.

## *Extra Especial*

Cuando Ivonne y Alfredo tuvieron su bebé, nunca se imaginaron la vida tan intensa que estaban a punto de vivir.



Tres meses después de que Freddy nació, notaron que algo no estaba bien con su desarrollo. Esta es la historia de la vida de Freddy y está narrada desde su perspectiva.

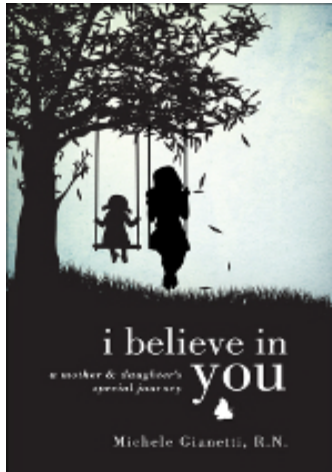
Una historia real trata de una rarísima enfermedad y sus extraños síntomas. Freddy y su familia enfrentan el reto de un misterio científico. Esta historia está llena de amor y compasión es un ejemplo de esperanza y asombrosa fortaleza.

Para mayor información contactar a Marbella Cáceres al 1-800-374-2806, Ext. 22.

## New Book Shares Ohio Family's Powerful Story

### *I Believe In You*

by Michele Gianetti, R.N.



In her new book, "I Believe in You: A Mother and Daughter's Special Journey," Ohio author Michele Gianetti, R.N. reveals how, as the veil of denial slowly lifted, she faced the fact that something was terribly wrong with her beautiful baby, Elizabeth.

The book shares how Gianetti never once asked God why; rather, she trusted in Him to show her the way and give her the strength to fight for little Elizabeth in every way possible. Readers journey down a road unfamiliar to most parents, the world of dyspraxia and sensory processing disorder, and meet the wonderful group of individuals, both therapists and friends, who have helped the Gianetti family on their journey.

Gianetti's devotion to Elizabeth proves there are some things that withstand even the greatest challenge: a mother's love and the words "I believe in you."

Published by Tate Publishing and Enterprises, the book is available through bookstores nationwide, from the publisher at [www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore](http://www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore), or by visiting [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

This is also an eLIVE title, meaning each book contains a code redeemable for a free audio book version from [TatePublishing.com](http://TatePublishing.com).

Gianetti is a registered nurse who previously worked as a school nurse before becoming a stay-at-home mom and eventually an advocate for her second child, who has special needs. She and her husband, an internal medicine physician, make their home in Canfield, Ohio. They are also parents to a sixteen-year-old daughter and a four-year-old son.

To check out this book for 30 days from OCECD's library, contact Martha Lause, 1-800-374-2806, ext. 20 or visit our website at [www.ocecd.org](http://www.ocecd.org).

### Project MORE Going Strong

Ohio's Project MORE Reading Program has been an effective tool to help close the achievement gap for all students. OCECD co-founded Project MORE 14 years ago, and is proud to report that it started with 12 schools and is now in more than 250 schools.

Ohio's schools embraced the 1:1 volunteer reading mentoring and are helping children learn more than they thought they could. With many children making month for month reading level gains, this is truly a gift.

Many thanks and big cheers go to Dr. Jan Osborn, Amy Freeman and Debby Ambroza for their dedication to Project MORE. They recently held their annual conference on May 14<sup>th</sup> at Bowling Green University.

A quote from a Worthington City School: "To us, Project MORE is not a 'project' any more, it is who we are and what we do!"

If your school is interested in Project MORE, please contact Amy Freeman at 1-419-523-5951 ext. 3014 or email at: [afreeman@pm.noacsc.org](mailto:afreeman@pm.noacsc.org).

## SAVE THE DATE

**August 7, 2012 Mercer County - Dr. Richard Lavoie, M.A., M.Ed., “The Motivation Breakthrough: 6 Secrets for Turning on the Tuned Out Child”.** Dr. Lavoie is a teacher, administrator, consultant and national speaker. Registration is open on our website: [www.ocecd.org](http://www.ocecd.org). Registration link is: <https://www.research.net/s/PRQHYP9>

**September 26 & 27, 2012 Franklin County - The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Special Education Leadership Conference.** The conference will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Registration is open now on our website: [www.ocecd.org](http://www.ocecd.org). Find more information at [www.edresourcesohio.org](http://www.edresourcesohio.org)

**OCECD's 10th Annual Partnering for Progress Conference - November 27, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel North in Columbus.** Dr. David Meichenbaum, Buffalo, New York, will present on “Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorders”. Watch our website for registration information at a later date.

Forum is published by the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD), 165 West Center Street, Suite 302, Marion, Ohio 43302; Toll-free 1-800-374-2806. Website: [www.ocecd.org](http://www.ocecd.org) E-mail: [ocecd@ocecd.org](mailto:ocecd@ocecd.org)

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