

Fast Facts

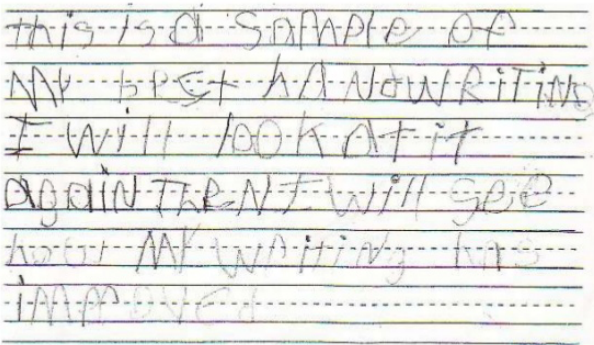
- Dysgraphia affects written expression
- Dysgraphic's have trouble with spelling, handwriting, and putting thoughts on paper
- Dysgraphia affects about 5% of the population
- Those with ADHD, Dyslexia, and Dyspraxia often have Dysgraphia
- There are five types of Dysgraphia
 - Dyslexia Dysgraphia
 - Motor Dysgraphia
 - Spatial Dysgraphia



Dysgraphia

More Than Messy Handwriting

An example of a second grade student's handwriting with dysgraphia.

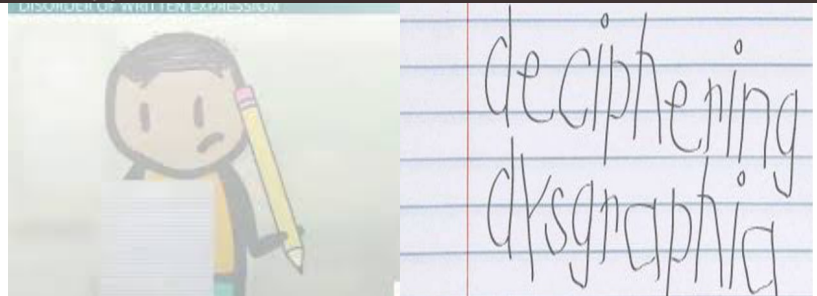
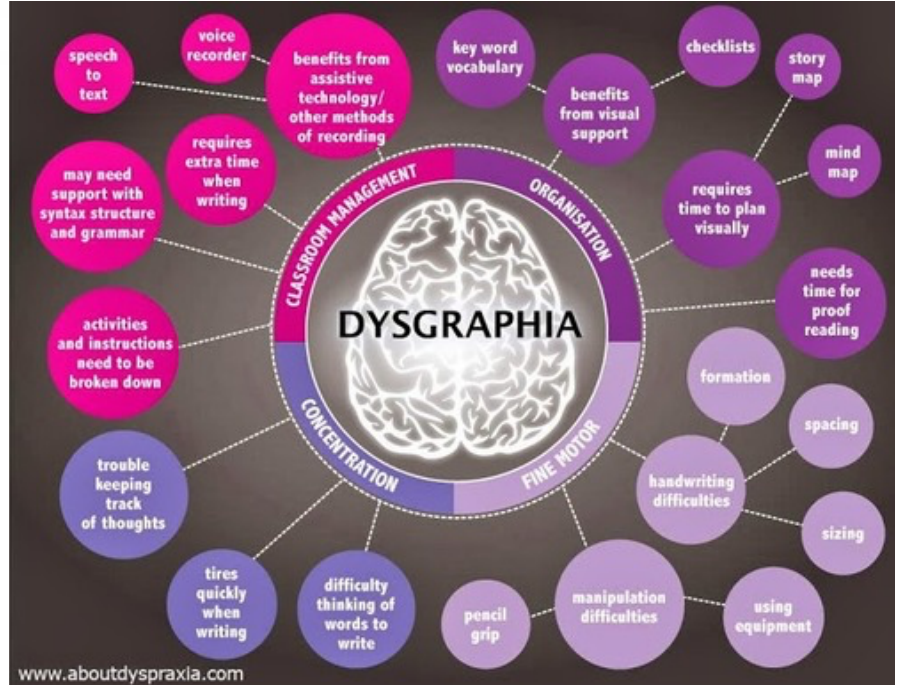


Common Signs of Dysgraphia

- Awkward pencil grip
- Poor fine-motor coordination
- Unusual position of the wrist or paper
- Tires quickly when writing, hand hurts
- Poorly formed or inconsistently formed letters
- Poor spatial planning on paper
- Spells well on spelling tests but not in actual usage
- Lack of punctuation and capitalization
- Mixture of lower case and capital letters in sentences
- Failing to finish words or omitting words from sentences
- Difficulty following spelling and grammar rules in writing
- Poor sequence/organization of words in sentence
- Produces minimum content on a page despite oral ability to explain ideas
- Avoids writing

Celebrities with Dysgraphia

- Agatha Christie (Writer)
- Thomas Edison (Inventor)
- Albert Einstein (Scientist)
- George Patton (General)



Characteristics of Dysgraphia:

- Their handwriting may include reversals, spelling errors, and may be illegible.
- have normal levels of intelligence, no problems expressing themselves verbally
- In dysgraphia, individuals fail to develop normal connections among different brain regions needed for writing.

What skills are affected by dysgraphia?

- Academic:**
 - Fall behind in schoolwork (it takes them so much longer to write)
 - Taking notes is a challenge
 - They may avoid writing assignments.
- Basic life skills:**
 - fine motor skills may be weak (hard to do everyday tasks)
 - buttoning shirts
 - making a simple list.
- Social situations:**
 - may feel frustrated about their academic and life challenges.
 - If not identified, they may be criticized in sloppy or lazy (causing stress).

Can result partly from:

- Visual- Spatial:** trouble processing what the eye sees
- Language processing difficulty:** trouble processing and making sense of what the ear hears

It can manifest itself as:

- difficulties with spelling.
- poor handwriting.
- trouble putting thoughts on paper.
- understanding the relationship between sounds, spoken words and written letters.

Strategies for Dealing with Dysgraphia

1 Accommodation	2 Modification	3 Remediation	4 Compensation
Reduce the impact writing has on learning	Change assignments/expectations to meet the student's individual learning needs	Structured re-teaching of skills using techniques to match student's processing style.	using strategies/aids to aid a particular aspect of the task