

What are the Signs of Learning Disabilities?

Children come into the world with countless differences. As children grow and develop, they begin to display a variety of behaviors that are sometimes indicative of something more than just a personality trait. Studies show that one in six children in the United States has been diagnosed with a learning disability. A learning disability can be defined as an inability to receive, process and store information. Boys are twice as likely as girls to be diagnosed with a learning disability.

Children often display a wide range of troublesome behaviors when a learning disability is present. If a learning disability is suspected, an early diagnosis is essential to assist the child in reaching his fullest potential. Children who have learning disabilities may well be intelligent and creative, but they are often labeled as troublemakers in the classroom because of their inability to sit still and focus on their assignments. Parents who have a child with a learning disability may want to consider sending the child to a [school for students with learning disabilities](#).

Early Signs of ADHD

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a chronic condition that affects millions of children and adults. Young children with ADHD have a hard time focusing and seem to be driven to be constantly on the move. They are often impulsive and do not think before they act, which can be a detriment to them both in the classroom and on the playground. Children with the disorder often daydream, leading to inattentiveness and careless mistakes. They are usually extremely disorganized, losing homework and assignments in the midst of the chaos inside their own desks and backpacks. Children with ADHD are usually not able to sit and play quietly. They have a tendency to squirm and fidget, impatiently jumping out of their seat as they raise their hand to answer a question.

Entering Adolescence with ADHD

Poor social skills, lack of organization, and rigid rules often lead to significant problems for the adolescent with ADHD. High school teachers expect students to complete and turn in assignments, take notes during class and work independently. The teenager with ADHD cannot follow that protocol. Schools for students with learning disabilities are sensitive to the needs of their students and create curriculums and programs geared toward the student's needs and capabilities.

Detecting Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a developmental reading disorder that is categorized as a learning disability. Children who have dyslexia have normal vision and intelligence but have difficulty reading. Dyslexia is often not diagnosed until adolescence or even adulthood when it becomes obvious that a dysfunction exists that prohibits success in school or the workplace. Children with dyslexia can thrive in the academic environment if they are diagnosed properly and curriculums are modified to focus on the child's strengths rather than weaknesses. A school that supports students with learning disabilities, such as Grand River Academy, provides structure, support, and extracurricular activity, enabling students to enjoy both academic and personal success.