

Tips for Parents of students with dyslexia/literacy difficulties

Reading and homework can be challenging for dyslexic students and their parents. Here are some strategies that can be used at home to support any student with literacy difficulties - whether they have a dyslexia diagnosis or not.

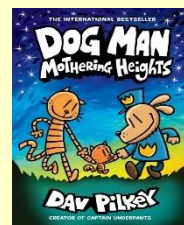
Set up a homework routine:

- **Choose a regular time** when your child is most focused.
- **Create a quiet workspace** with no distractions eg TV, phones.
- **Break tasks into small steps** and use a checklist.
- **Set a time limit eg 15–20 minutes** of focused work followed by a short break.
- **Boost motivation** by allowing a favourite activity after homework.



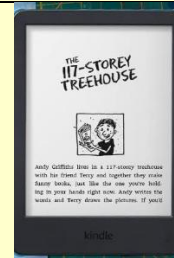
Helping with reading:

- **Read together daily for 10 mins** this can help your child to copy good reading models, like pausing at unknown words and tackling them.
- **Talk about what you've read.** Ask what might happen next.
- **Pick books of interest at the right level** - if they struggle with five or more words on a page, it may be too difficult.
- **Use coloured overlays and reading rulers** to reduce glare and to hold the place in text.
- **Read favourite books again** this helps children remember common words.
- **Hi-lo books** (high interest, low reading level) are great for readers who struggle with traditional texts. Try books with simpler vocabulary and lots of



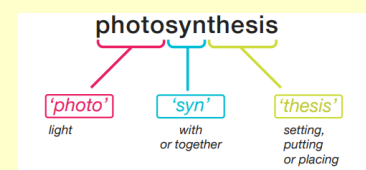
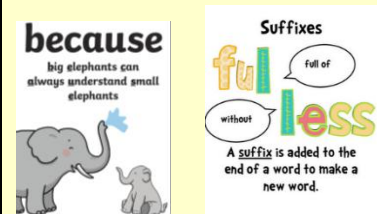
visuals/graphics.

- **Use audiobooks or e-readers like Kindles.** Libraries lend audio books. E-readers can read the story and highlight the words. This helps your child follow along and learn new words. Font type and size can be adjusted.



Helping with spelling:

- **Use magnetic letters** to make words and display them so they can be seen often.
- **Use colour** to highlight patterns in spellings (rat, mat, sat).
- **Break words into syllables** to help spell them. Try clapping them.
- **Mnemonics** can help to remember tricky spellings (Said - silly ants in dresses).
- **Games** are a fun, multi-sensory way to reinforce spelling skills such as Hangman and Wordle. Make flashcards of words to play snap.
- Spot common **prefixes** (letters at the start of words dis- un- re-) and **suffixes** (which go at the end -ful -ness) as this helps to spell words.
- Many words come from **Latin or Greek**. Learning common ones can help to remember spellings.



Helping with writing:

- **Talk** about what your child is going to write first.
- **Jot down** points and support them to organise their ideas – using post-it notes and grouping them is a fun way to do this.
- **Explore other ways of recording** such as picture, powerpoints and mind maps.
- **Using a laptop** supports spelling, sentence construction and the organisation of writing.
- **Explore speech to text functions and touch-typing** free courses For a list of courses see: [Online-touch-typing-courses.pdf](https://www.online-typing-courses.com/)

