

# What is dyslexia?

## THE FACTS

### HOW TO HELP:

- **Step-by-step instructions** – for all tasks. Make sure every concept is understood and mastered before moving on.
- **Allow different ways of presenting knowledge** other than written such as orally or visually.
- **Include technology in their education.** Such as audiobooks and text-to-speech.
- **Multisensory learning.** Using visual, written and audio-material together.

### DYSLEXIA IS:

- **A common brain-based issue** affecting 5-10% of people. Researchers have been studying dyslexia for over 100 years.
- **A learning difference** that can cause problems with reading, writing and spelling.
- **A life long condition** – but with the right support, reading can significantly improve.
- **A different way of seeing the world.** Many dyslexic children go on to become highly successful entrepreneurs, and creative adults.

### PROBLEM AREAS:

- Spelling and writing
- Sounding out written words
- Recognising common (and tricky) words
- Reading accurately and with ease
- Comprehension (understanding what's been read)
- Rhyming
- Solving written problems in maths
- Learning a foreign language

### DYSLEXIA IS NOT:

- **A problem with intelligence.** Kids with dyslexia are no less smart than their peers.
- **A vision issue.** The fundamental problem lies with being unable to understand how the *sounds* in words are represented by letters.
- **Laziness.** Kids with dyslexia are often trying really hard. Much harder than others their age. They need help, support and understanding in order to make progress.