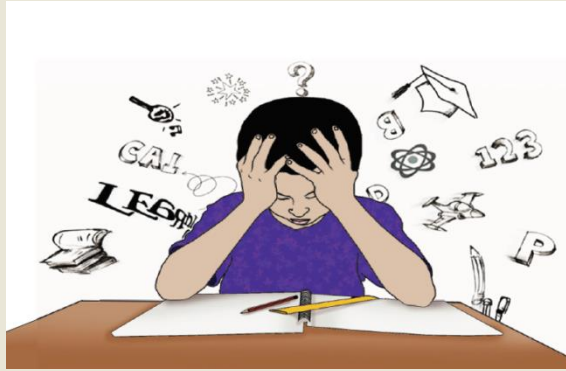


FAQs on Learning Disability

1. What is a Learning disability (LD)?

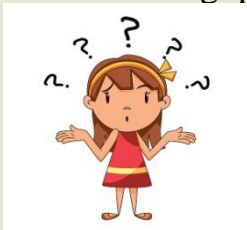


Any child who has an academic difficulty (Eg: Difficulty in reading, writing, mathematical calculations) but has normal intelligence and performs well at extracurricular activities like sports, dancing, painting etc could have Learning Disability. However all children who have difficulty in academics may not have LD. It is only after a detailed evaluation done by a Speech Language Pathologist a LD can be diagnosed.

2. What are the signs of Learning Disability?

A child with LD may have problems with

- Learning new words that he/she hears in class or sees in books.
- Using correct sounds in words/sentences.(Eg: Saying tat for cat)
- Understanding questions and following directions.



- Remembering numbers in order, like phone number.
- Understanding what he/she reads.



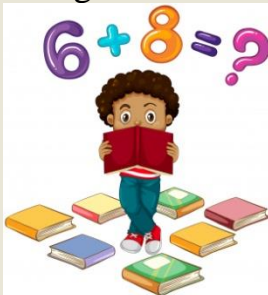
- Confusion of left side and right side. This can make it hard to read and write.
- Writing. He/she may mix up the order of letters in words while writing.



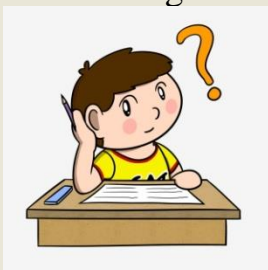
- Spelling.



- Doing math. He/ she may mix up the order of numbers.



- Memorizing times tables.



- Telling time.



3. How do I find out if my child has a learning disability?

If you are worried about your child, the first thing to do is speak to their teachers. Ask about their behavior in class and any concerns that they have in relation to their learning or behavior. The appropriate way to determine whether a child has LD is to undertake an assessment conducted mainly by a group of professionals such as

- Speech Language Pathologists – Who assess child's language skills, reading & writing skills, mathematical skills etc.
- Psychologists: Assess child's mental abilities and IQ.
- Special Educators: Assess child's academic abilities



4. At what age can learning disability be diagnosed?

If you feel your child is facing reading and writing difficulties but is good at other activities, we advise you to consult a Speech Language Pathologist as early as possible because earlier the treatment given better the improvement. Moreover LD can be generally diagnosed above the age of three. Symptoms are varied based on the age of the child.

5. Will my child grow out of it?

Learning disability is not curable. However, with ample support and the right resources, the LD child can learn to adjust to the method of learning that best suits them, in order to carry out everyday tasks easily. With the right support, every child with a learning disability can learn and attain success.

6. What can parents/caregivers do to help a child with learning disability?

As a parent, it can be hard to understand your child's learning disability or know how to respond to it in order to help them.

Remember scolding or punishing your child for poor academic performance is not going to help since the child has a problem with learning. Instead your priority should be to make sure that your child is receiving the additional support they need in the right educational environment.



7. Does a learning disorder mean that my child is less intelligent?

No. The presence of a learning disability means only that your child needs to be taught in a slightly different way than his or her classmates, and extra support may be required to help him or her learn specific subjects and/or concepts.

For more details contact us at:



*All India Institute of Speech & Hearing (AIISH),
Manasagangothri, Mysore 570 006*

Phone: +91-0821-2502703/2502575

Fax: +91-0821-2510515

E-mail: director@aiishmysore.in

Website: www.aiishmysore.in