



The San Diego Dyslexia Gazette

SAN DIEGO BRANCH
INTERNATIONAL DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION
WWW.DYSLEXIASD.ORG

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Spring
Conference
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Dyslexia
Informational
Session



Kelli Sandman-Hurley

It is with great excitement and anticipation that we announce our first annual Spring Conference. This all-day conference will be held at the beautiful University of San Diego and feature keynote speaker John Corcoran on May 8, 2010. Please see

page 3 for more details and check the website at www.dyslexiasd.org for the registration form and detailed descriptions of the topics to be presented.

The board is energized and embarking on an exciting new adventures like the Spring Conference.

Once again, the Special Ed Law and Advocacy workshop was well attended and well-received.

We are also announcing the creation of a parent kit that includes two

informational booklets, and a DVD all filled with information from respected sources about dyslexia.

We are actively seeking parents and business professionals who have time to commit to the cause of dyslexia. If you are interested in joining the board and have at least one night a month to commit please contact us at sdidainfo@gmail.com.

See you at the Spring Conference!

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CALL FOR NEW

As we approach the new year we begin to look for people to join our dynamic and busy board. We are looking for any IDA members who will commit to monthly meetings and work by email and

phone. Terms are two years. Over the next two years we hope to increase our workshop offerings, hold the first Dyslexia Dash and usher in a successful first annual confer-

ence. We are especially interested in parents of people with dyslexia, and those with marketing and financial experience. If you are interested please contact us at sdidainfo@gmail.com.

ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP ORAL LANGUAGE

Meal or Snack Time



Encourage “curiosity questions,” such as what the food is made of and where it is grown. Meal time is often one of the only times during the day when a child engages in interesting conversations with an adult. It can be a time to describe events, interpret significance of what happened, and be exposed to new vocabulary.

Sharing



Tell your child your personal stories. Talk to them about things that are important to you or that interest you. Share your uncertainties and how you will address difficult questions.

Pretending



Encourage pretend playing. Make sure your child has long uninterrupted periods of time to engage in complex pretend play. Don't discourage your child's “self-chatter” during this time. Provide props and be an audience if your child wants to perform a play.

Time to Talk



Turn off the car radio and talk with your child while you are riding in the car. Set aside a regular time during the day to talk privately with your child—whether it is as she arrives home from school, at the dinner table, or before bed. Listen to how she expresses her ideas and help her with her vocabulary.

Field Trips



Take your child to a new place. Every trip to the zoo, the library, the museum, or even the grocery store is filled with opportunities to learn new vocabulary.

Wait Time



Support your child's efforts to communicate complex thoughts by waiting patiently while she puts her ideas together. Suggest words as needed. Let your child control the subject of the conversation. Compliment your child's efforts to use new words.

“Learning Disabilities from A to Z”

Do you have dyslexia? Do you have a child with dyslexia? Would you like to know more about dyslexia and other learning disabilities? The San Diego Branch of The International Dyslexia Association is sponsoring a workshop, “Learning Disabilities from A to Z” to provide information and answers to the many questions you may have about dyslexia and other learning disabilities.

January 20, 2010 6:00-7:30

RSVP to 619-685-4413 or sdidainfo@gmail.com

Or register online at www.dyslexiasd.org

Mission Valley Library

2123 Fenton Parkway, San Diego, CA 92108

**Limited to 55
participants. RSVP
early to reserve your
spot.**

Fee:
IDA Members - \$25
Non-members - \$35
If you join -\$15

Spring Conference at the University of San Diego May 8, 2010

We are proudly announcing our first annual Spring Conference. This all day conference will feature five topics and luncheon with keynote speaker, John Corcoran. John is the author of the Teacher Who Couldn't Read. The workshop sessions will be 2 hours so that you have the opportunity to get as many of your questions or concerns answered as possible. The topics will include: Special Ed Law, Neuropsychological Tests, Dyslexia Simulation, Dyslexia Basics, Parent Resources and IEP's.

Fee:

IDA Members - \$99
Non-members - \$125

**SDIDA will conduct a simulation at your
school or organization**

Did you ever wonder what it would be like to walk in the shoes of a dyslexic? The San Diego branch of the International Dyslexia Association will come to your school or organization and conduct a simulation. This simulation includes a presentation prior to the simulation and a wrap-up session after the simulation. Contact us at sdidainfo@gmail.com for more information.



Announcements

We would like to give a *Special Thanks* to Thomas Nelson, Esq., for presenting our September 30th, "Education Law & Advocacy" workshop and providing additional notes for participants! "Very Helpful. All new information for me," commends one participant. All participants had the same request....more time! Well, you will get it! Mr. Nelson is presenting a two and a half hour workshop at our Spring Conference on May 8, 2010 at USD.

Think you may need legal services? Mr. Nelson provides the first consultation FREE! For more information, go to www.specialedlaw.us or contact Mr. Nelson at:

Law Offices of Thomas S. Nelson
Attorney at Law
16466 Bernardo Center Drive, Suite 106
San Diego, CA 92128
(858)945-6621
email: edlaw5@yahoo.com

The Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic is offering FREE Individual Membership to individuals with proper certification.

Member benefits include:

- Free access to the nation's largest audiobook library of textbooks and literature titles
- Human-narrated audiobooks with descriptions of images, tables and graphs
 - Easy-to-use online catalog
- 24/7 online member services and phone support
- Various audiobook downloadable formats, including DAISY and WMA (Windows Media Audio)

For more information go to www.rfb.org.



Parent's Corner

Advice To Parents Who Are Just Beginning Their Journey With A Dyslexic Child

My advice to parents of a dyslexic child, being a parent myself of a dyslexic child that is now 16 years old, is to get help as soon as you suspect that there is a learning/reading difficulty. Don't let denial get in the way! Get the right help as early as possible, even as early as pre-kindergarten.

You know your child. If you pay attention, you will be able to recognize that there is a problem. There are no real consequences to beginning remediation too early. It certainly will not hurt the child to have extra support, but it can be very detrimental if they do not receive remediation early enough. Early diagnosis and correct interventions can make lifetime of difference, especially in a child's academic career. Reading is such an important part of everyday learning. Without good skills, a child will always be behind in school. If your child has reading difficulties, chance are good that there are other learning difficulties involved. Figuring out what the specific problem areas are and figuring out the right remediation approach for your child is the key.

Working with a QUALIFIED professional is very important! It will make life much easier for the whole family, especially the child. Studies show that the brain can be retrained, which could potentially help in all aspect of life. When you can't keep up with the reading and writing in an academic environment, you are more likely to be confused, scattered, less organized, and more anxious. It can appear that a child is not paying attention when in reality he or she is, but the child just cannot keep up! Think about when you are discombobulated how you are unable to function, how inefficient and anxious you become. Imagine how a person with dyslexia feels when they cannot decode fast enough and process fast enough to keep up with their peers.

I can't help think that if we had started earlier with the right support we might have been able to give our child the skills and tools he needed to be successful before it even became a problem. We will never know for sure, but I highly recommend getting help for your child early!

Parent of a dyslexic child



Advertising opportunities!

Current IDA members are invited to advertise in our quarterly newsletter. Ads should be no more than a business card in size.

- \$50.00 per issue

For more information send an email to
sdidainfo@gmail.com



SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Phone: 619-685-4413

E-mail: sdidainfo@gmail.com

Our Mission:

"The San Diego Branch of the International Dyslexia Association attracts and provides professional expertise that supports parents, teachers, students, and others who are affected by dyslexia. The Branch raises awareness about dyslexia, offers training and technical assistance to the community, and makes appropriate service referrals. The Branch also serves as a point of connectivity that creates greater support for those who are affected by learning challenges."

International Dyslexia Association - San Diego Branch

BOARD MEMBERS

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Become an IDA Member

To become an IDA member simply go to:

www.dyslexiasd.org

and look for the link to sign up.

Here are some of the benefits of IDA membership:

- Perspectives
- Annals of Dyslexia
- Reduced fees for workshops and conferences

