

10 Warning Signs that a Student in your Class May Have Dysgraphia

Does the student:

1. Have trouble with shape-discrimination and letter spacing?
2. Have trouble organizing words on the page from left to right or have words and letters that run together?
3. Have trouble getting ideas down on paper quickly or copying quickly?
4. Have a hard time understanding the rules of games or following directions?
5. Have trouble understanding spelling rules or telling if a word is misspelled, but can spell correctly orally?
6. Mix upper and lowercase letters, blend cursive and print, erase a lot, and have trouble reading their own handwriting?
7. Have a hard time holding a pencil correctly, tracing, cutting food, tying shoes, doing puzzles, texting and keyboarding?
8. Hold his wrist, arm, body or paper in an awkward position when writing?
9. Doesn't know how to use punctuation (ex. overuse commas, mixing up verb tenses)?
10. Have trouble writing a story (ex. Starting in the middle, left out/too much information), but can tell a story orally?

Dysgraphia: What is it NOT?

- Evidence of a damaged motor nervous system
- Part of a developmental disability that has fine motor deficits
- Secondary to a medical condition
- Associated with generalized developmental motor or coordination difficulties
- Impaired spelling or written expression with typical handwriting