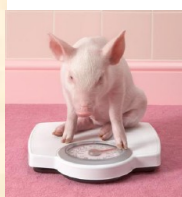


## Is there too much focus on testing... What about making a difference?

### From the editor

It's an old farm saying... about weighing the pig... but it still applies.



An experienced farmer develops a good eye to judge his product and doesn't need to frequently test his product to know its value. The pattern of development, the indicators of success become obvious to observe.

Experienced teachers know what to look for and will accurately assess a student's stage of development from patterns of behaviour and skill.

### Some indicators of dyslexia...

Unresolved dyslexia can display itself through outward and sometimes obvious behaviours.

In order to cope with their own frustration, students with unresolved dyslexia develop their own ways of solving the problem.



They may be the class clown, maybe teacher's pet, quiet mouse (trying to be invisible), constant helper, or the angry and very disruptive student. All may be attempts by the student to hide their sense of inadequacy and frustration.



"I wouldn't say your son is a bad child. He's gifted at disruptive behavior."

**Low self esteem is a very common by-product of unresolved dyslexia.**

**Dyslexic students are often told they are lazy or don't try hard enough.**

You can read about 37 characteristics which strongly indicate dyslexia by going to:

<http://www.dyslexia.com/about-dyslexia/signs-of-dyslexia/>

### What to do next?

Often the diagnosis is the easy bit.



Most educators and other providers of dyslexia solutions apply the strategies and techniques which have been successful for their own learning.

"It worked for me... **what's wrong with this student?**"

**Nothing** is wrong with the student.

The problem lies with the teaching; because of dyslexics' visual strengths the dyslexic student needs a visual and tactile educational program which uses their significant capabilities.

Ron Davis, himself dyslexic and autistic, developed such a high effective program.

For a previous Dyslexia WA article about the visual strengths of dyslexic people go to:

<http://dyslexiacorrection.com.au/newsletters/dyslexiawa/Newsletter19.pdf>

Ron Davis's focus is predominantly about **resolving** dyslexia.

Testing can provide a formal diagnosis but often the signs are very obvious.

## What options do you have?

As the only Davis Provider in Western Australia our main focus is upon **resolution**.

Like Davis providers in 47 countries, we base our reputation upon results, resolving the dyslexia and enabling students to get on with learning.

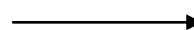
**We can provide your group with a free 2 hour presentation** to raise awareness of dyslexia, it's underlying causes, the needs of

dyslexic students (children or adults) and their often amazing and surprising creative abilities.

For a better understanding of Dyslexia and to discover how to support and enhance people's learning abilities, please contact us to arrange a seminar in your area.



More options over



## When life gives you melons, you're dyslexic

By Catherine Deveny

*You're not concentrating!' 'Try harder.' 'You just need to do more work!'*

Growing up, I heard these things over and over again. The way my teachers, parents, classmates — everyone — told me to learn and remember things never worked for me.

I was a very social and "creative" kid who could cook, knit, crochet, sing, understand people's emotions and "participate well in class discussion". But I couldn't learn my times tables no matter what I did, could not tell my left from my right and sucked at spelling.

Now, at 48, nothing's changed. I still don't know my times tables, can't spell, and still can't tell my left from my right.

Like many parents, I was identified as having dyslexia at around the same time my



**We are the original improvisers, problem solvers and lateral thinkers:**  
**Proud member of the D-Squad**  
**Catherine Deveny explains why being identified as dyslexic can be liberating, and shares some advice for parents of dyslexic kids.**

eldest son, then nine-year-old Dom, was.

Note the use of the word "identified" and not "diagnosed". Dyslexia is not a medical condition, a mental illness or a life sentence. Dyslexia is not something that can or needs to be cured. It simply means we are not neurotypical. **We are neurodiverse.**

It is estimated that 10 per cent of people are dyslexic. Just like most people, we are good at some things and we suck at others. We find some things really hard to learn and other things effortless.

MRIs show our brains are wired differently and, despite being in the normal or above average IQ range, our literacy levels lag a few years behind what is expected — despite normal access to schooling, books and language.

Neurotypicals — people whose brains and thought processes work in the most common way — learn in a linear fashion, a little like the door-opening sequence at the start of Get Smart (most people are neurotypicals).

See more at: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-09-25/when-life-gives-you-melons-youre-dyslexic/7867648>

### Options cont...

**A consultation with student and family** (or adult dyslexic) establishes the visual spatial learning style and assesses the suitability of the Davis Program for the student.



No program is recommended unless it is going to make a significant difference.

#### **The 30 hour one-on-one Davis Program:**

Usually done in one week, the program empowers the student to control the

disruptive inability to focus and sets them on the pathway to success in control of their own learning.

Support is needed to encourage the student to continue and manage their program. Support training for parents is provided as part of the program



Follow up support from Dyslexia WA, if needed, is **unlimited and free**.

**For educators**, especially PP to Year 3 teachers, there is the **Davis Learning**

**Strategies** professional learning.

The DLS is a 2 day workshop which enables educators to fully implement the Davis Program in their classrooms.

For more information go to:

<http://www.davistraining.info/event/davis-learning-strategies-wellington/>

**Testimonials...** many unsolicited emails over the years describe success achieved; and many of these people are happy to chat about their experience with new enquirers. Send an email and we'll put you in touch.

Have a look at:

<http://dyslexiacorrection.com.au/testimonials.html>

**Dyslexia WA** provides a very effective program for both **children and adults** affected by dyslexia, dyscalculia, ADHD and similar conditions; the condition is resolved and clients are able to focus upon, and successfully manage, their learning.

For more information visit... [www.dyslexiawa.com.au](http://www.dyslexiawa.com.au)

