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LEARNING DISABILITIES: DYSCALCULIA

STRATEGIES FOR ASSISTING WITH ACADEMIC DIFFICULTIES

What is a math disability (dyscalculia)?

Difficulties with:

- Basic number facts
- Calculations
- Mathematical symbols
- Basic math concepts

Most commonly, those with dyscalcula have trouble remembering and recalling basic mathematical facts and written calculations

How might we help children and adolescents experiencing math disabilities?

- Asking students to verbally explain math examples
- Asking students what strategies they are using to solve math problems (both parents and teachers can ask these questions)
- Providing instruction in several different ways (i.e. oral, written, and concrete examples) can help students to understand and translate concepts into the ability to solve problems
- Students who have trouble grasping foundational math concepts might benefit from verbal versions of instruction and concrete representation in particular

Additional helpful online resources are listed below.

- Currently, the best resources to consult specifically for math disabilities are found online
- Talking calculators and electronic math sheets (e.g., <http://ldatschool.ca/technology/information-tools-and-resources/>)



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Further information about math disabilities can be found at the links below:

- http://ldahalton.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Math_and_LDs.pdf
- <http://www.ldonline.org/indepth/math>

Are there any local resources available for help?

Different organizations hold conferences and presentations for specific learning disabilities; more information can be found by searching sites like Google, Twitter, and The Cannon for community events

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