



Myth:

The child can't be dyslexic. They've made it through the lower grades just fine. Now they're just being defiant and refusing to do the work.

Fact:

Dyslexic children are excellent compensators. They will use clues, memorize as much as they can, guess at context using the habits of poor readers like using picture clues and more, but in the higher grades when picture cues go away and they are required to read to learn, not learn to read, the tools they use to compensate will not help them any longer. Additionally, holes that exist in their understanding of the alphabetic code or issues with fluency will impact their comprehension of text and they will begin to struggle. A child's or adult's age is irrelevant in the diagnosis of dyslexia. Starting as young as 5, children can be diagnosed, and unidentified children and adults can be diagnosed at any age.