Dyslexia Scotland

Dyslexia Friendly Teaching and Support Resources for Nursery and Primary Schools
(with a selection of Dyslexia Screening and Assessment Instruments)
ANNE WARDEN AND MOIRA THOMSON

No **8** in the series of
Supporting Pupils with Dyslexia at Primary School

SUPPORTING PUPILS WITH DYSLEXIA AT PRIMARY SCHOOL

DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY TEACHING AND SUPPORT RESOURCES FOR NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS
(with a selection of Dyslexia Screening and Assessment Instruments)

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Supporting Pupils with Dyslexia at Primary School

Every primary school in Scotland has been supplied with a free copy of this important publication. All material in these titles is downloadable free from the Dyslexia Scotland website – www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk.

Dyslexia Scotland would like to thank Meg Houston and the committee members of Dyslexia Scotland South East for producing these important resources for primary teachers in Scotland.

Thanks also go to M & A Thomson Litho Ltd, East Kilbride, Scotland who printed the titles at below cost – www.thomsonlitho.com and Paula O'Connell for copy-editing all titles.

An education grant from the Royal Bank of Scotland has funded Dyslexia Scotland's support for these booklets.

SOFTWARE

READING, SPELLING, PHONICS AND WRITING

- **Earobics Step 1 and Step 2 (ages 4 to 10 years) – Cognitive Concepts (www.earobics.com**)

  Programs offer systematic teaching of phonological awareness, auditory processing and phonic skills. Children enjoy the interaction, helps with attention, listening skills and following spoken instructions.

- **Smart Phonics 1, Active Alphabet and Basic Interactive Literacy Games Smart Kids (www.smartkids.co.uk)**

  These three resources are great for basic literacy skills learning-enjoyable, motivational and multisensory.

- **Wordshark 4 – White Space (www.wordshark.co.uk) and from the Dyslexia Shop www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk**

  This is an invaluable multisensory resource is suitable for primary, secondary and adult learners. This version has the added feature of having the ability to record pupil's own words for practice. Youngsters love to hear their own voices reading words. Worksheets can be generated for reinforcement exercises.

- **Starspell 3 – Fisher-Marriot (http://www.fishermarriott.com/starspel.htm)**

  This is a multisensory spelling resource suitable for the 4 to 18 years age group. Uses a variety of multisensory activities, colourful worksheets can be generated and word lists can be customised to suit.

- **Mnemonics – 'Two Wise Owls' (www.inclusive.co.uk)**

  Lots of useful mnemonics to support 'tricky' word spelling, interactive and multisensory activities. Pupils are encouraged to make, record, draw and print their own mnemonics. This resource is suitable for school use, interactive whiteboards and switches. Age group from 7 years.

- **Letter Olympics (www.inclusive.co.uk)**

  Letter Olympics is an addictive multisensory resource that covers the recognition, discrimination and differentiation of lower case letters b and d. There are auditory and visual instructions emphasising accurate sound production of the b and d phonemes.

- **Clicker v5, Trackers, Clicker Books, Clicker Phonics, ClozePro (www.cricksoft.com) Educational Software**

  All these software packages help to support pupils become independent readers and writers. Interactive and motivational, for school and home use, ages from early years onwards.

- **Co:writer 6 (www.inclusive.co.uk/software/don-johnston-corner)**

  Co:writer is a word prediction program which gives the struggling writer the help he needs to get his thoughts down on paper. This program can be used in conjunction with other applications e.g. Write: Outloud 6, Kidspiration3, Word, email, etc.

- **Penfriend Portable 4.0 (www.inclusive.co.uk/software/don-johnston-corner)**

  This is a powerful tool for children and adults with dyslexia or sensory disabilities, adding screen reading, text magnification, word prediction, speech and on-screen keyboards to almost any other software. The Penfriend is on a portable USB stick and easy to use, no installation required.

- **textHelp! Read and Write Gold for schools (www.texthelp.com)**

  This is a literacy tool to assist users of all ages who require extra support in reading text, composing text and handling information. Includes word prediction, highlights text and reads it aloud, mindmaps, talking dictionary, phonetic spell checker and can read websites and PDF documents aloud. Suitable for age 7 and upwards, however it is an expensive piece of software and may be more suited to upper primary age and adults.

- **Nessy Learning Program 4 – Net Educational Systems www.nessy.co.uk and from the Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

  Nessy is a complete learning programme for pupil's age 5 to 16 years particularly suitable for learners who have dyslexia or learning difficulties. The program can be used by teachers, tutors and parents as it is easy to navigate.
  Nessy follows a structured phonic programme, is an interactive resource with printable activity sheets, mnemonics and computer games. An invaluable cost effective and environmentally friendly resource as everything you need is on a CD Rom, games and reinforcement activities need only be printed out when required.

- **Nessy Games Player – Net Educational Systems www.nessygamesplayer.co.uk also from the Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

  This is a low cost home support resource suitable for ages 7 to 14 years who are dyslexic, have learning difficulties but also suitable for gifted children. Young people enjoy playing games independently while reinforcing spelling and reading skills. Personalised word lists can be recorded for use in the games. There is also a free online 'Nessy News' newsletter.

- **Nessy Interactive Tales and reading Books – Net Educational Systems (www.nessy.co.uk) download stories and book orders. Also available from the Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

  Animated children's stories suitable for home support, reading age 5 to 7 years. The stories are amusing, highly visual, interactive and motivational, providing a very useful bridge between listening and reading. The reading books are then the next step, giving reluctant readers the confidence to tackle reading books.

- **Nessy Fingers Typing Tutor – available from www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk**

  This is a multisensory, interactive touch typing program based on games suitable for age 8 upwards. This typing course was designed by specialist teachers and helps children improve spelling and keyboarding skills.

- **Phonic Code Cracker – available from www.strath.ac.uk/qie/publications**

  This systematic approach to phonics is used in many Scottish primary and secondary schools. The scheme is presented as photocopiable masters and an interactive CD-Rom and covers 12 levels from basic alphabet sounds to irregular phonics. It has been devised to give intensive phonic practise for children who have been having difficulty acquiring literacy skills.

STUDY AND MEMORY SKILLS

- **Kidspiration and Inspiration (www.inspiration.com)**

  These are mindmapping tools for planning written work and revision for example. Templates can be set up for pupils to work from. Visual learners enjoy using shapes, colours and pictures along -side text. The mind map can easily be turned into a linear text outline.

- **Nessy BrainBooster – Net Educational Systems (www.nessy.co.uk) and from the Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

  BrainBooster is suitable for 11 years to adult. It is an easy to use interactive study skills guide assisting users to discover their learning strengths, find strategies to

improve memory, organisation, essay writing, revision skills, improve reading speed and how to mind map. Activities can be printed out for practice.

- **Memory Booster (www.lucid-research.com)**

Memory Booster is an entertaining adventure game which encourages players to use different memory strategies and discover which ones suit them best. This program helps to develop visual and verbal memory skills for children ages 4 to 11+ for home and school use.

- **Mastering Memory (www.calsc.co.uk)**

This is a flexible, structured programme which can improve visual and auditory memory. The children's version is for age 2 to 11 years and secondary school age to adult version also available.

- **Cognitive Training, improving Working Memory (www.junglememory.com)**

This is new on the market (2009) and has been developed to address the visual and auditory memory difficulties often associated with developmental learning difficulties including dyslexia. It can help train the short term memory in the context of key learning activities such as reading, letter decoding and maths. Suitable for 5 to 15 year olds and takes 15 minutes a day.

MATHS

- **Numbershark v4 – White Space (www.numbershark.co.uk) and from The Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

This is a popular teaching resource used in schools and at home. Games cover addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Numbershark is suitable for all levels of skill ages 7 to 14 years.

EARLY YEARS/ LOWER PRIMARY GAMES AND RESOURCES

- **Listening Skills – 'Soundtracks' – Living and Learning (www.livingandlearning.com)**

Children listen to the sounds of real life sounds and match them up to photographs on the game board. Suitable for age 3 to 6 years, 1 to 4 players.

- **Listening Skills – Early Years The Questions Publishing Co Ltd (ISBN 1 898149801) Authors Sandi Rickerby and Sue Lambert 2003**

This book contains a series of colouring in activities with instructions that are repeated only once. The tasks are to encourage children to listen and follow instructions.

- **Let's Look – LDA (ISBN 1 85503 145 0)**

    This is a visual discrimination activity resource. The book includes photocopiable masters for matching, patterns, size, orientation, silhouettes, symmetry, following directions and picture completion activities.
    Suitable for age 4+ to 9 years, mainly for school use.

- **Visual Perceptual Skills – LDA (www.LDAlearning.com)**

    This book has photocopiable activities to support the needs of pupils who have difficulties with visual matching, discrimination, memory, size and figure ground perception. The activities include 'spot the difference', 'odd one out', sequencing, and memory for position of objects. Activities are suitable for schools and home use, age from 4+ to about 9 years.

- **Magnetic Rainbow Arc, Magnetic Letters and Letter Sounds – Smart Kids (www.SMARTKIDS.CO.UK)**

    These resources are ideal for hands -on learning of the alphabet letters, sounds and sequences, packs also include diagraphs.

- **Phoneme Fans – Smart Kids**
    These fans are Ideal for classroom, group and individual activities used for learning letter –sound.

- **Mnemonic Cards – Smart Kids**
    Cards are double sided with photographs on one side and a letter corresponding to the sound on the other side.
    Ideal for home and school use.

- **Matching Words and Pictures, Picture Caption Matching – Smart Kids**

    These are self –correcting jigsaw matching up activities. Children learn to decode words and simple phrases to match pictures and captions.
    Ideal activities for help at home and in the classroom.

- **Phonix Cubes – Philip and Tacey (www.philipandtacey.co.uk)**

    Coloured cubes, blue for consonants and red for vowels, are used to join together to make CVC words, to match up with picture cards. The combination of strong visual and tactile reinforcement helps motivate the youngster who is not feeling confident with writing words. The cards also provide alphabet sequencing activities in lower and upper case.

Phonix cubes can be used at home and in the classroom age from 4 to 7 years or young people with learning difficulties.

- **Alphabet, Slide and Learn Flash Cards – (www.hinklerbooks.com)**

  These' slide and learn' alphabet cards are a fun and interactive resource for young people to develop visual skills, builds recognition of alphabet sounds and word recognition.
  Suitable for home use, ages from 4 years

- **Syllable Safari – LDA (www.LDAlearning.com)**

  A clever and colourful self-checking game for two to four players, designed to help children understand syllables. Suitable for age 4+ school and at home.

- **Rhyme Lotto – LDA (www.LDAlearning.com)**

  This is a fun way to build up important rhyming skills, four different levels of play allowing children to progress at their own speed. Suitable for the 5+ age group, one to four players.

- **Phonics Lotto – LDA (www.LDAlearning.com)**

  This game is a fun way to build important phonic skills. There are four boards offering play at a different level of ability.
  This game is suitable for home and school use, age from about 5 years.

- **CVC Word Spin – LDA www.LDAlearning.com**

  Words and pictures CVC word spin game consists of a spinner with all the vowels and sets of cards with consonant-vowel-consonant words (e.g. bed) on one side and the corresponding picture on the other. This game is suitable for one to four players, age 5 upwards and young people who need to reinforce medial vowel sounds. Children enjoy spinning the wheel and gathering a large pile of cards! This is a good multisensory game suitable for home and school use.

LOWER, MIDDLE AND UPPER PRIMARY RESOURCES

LANGUAGE RESOURCES

- **Sound Aloud, Go Phonic and Go Phonic2 – developed by a primary school teacher Christine Towndrow – Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

  This is a range of simple yet effective board games. Children learn letter and phonic sounds with picture clues.
  Suitable for age from 5+, two to four players, home and school.

- **8 Spelling Board Games – Smart Kids (www.smartkidscatalogue.com)**

  These games reinforce letter/sound relationships and word skills in a fun and interactive way. The games are suitable for age from 5 to 9 years, school and home use.

- **Smart Chute – Smart Kids (www.smartkidscatalogue.com)**

  Young learners, up to 14 years, enjoy this card flipper posting box. It is a fun way to develop instant recall of key literacy and numeracy facts and concepts. It motivates learners because it is unlike the more traditional 'flash card' system of learning. Boys and girls are fascinated by its construction and enjoy working out how the flipper works. It has been known for pupils to take the box apart to see how it works!

  Post Box and sets of cards are bought separately and are suitable for home and school use.

- **Dyslexia Games Manual – Multi-Sensory Learning Limited www.msl-online.net and The Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

  This manual is mainly for teachers but can be used at home. It is packed full of games that can increase concentration and develop motivation. Many of the games will develop auditory and/or visual awareness, necessary to improve word attack skills, whilst others will provide over-learning, revision and reinforcement of vital literacy skills. The games should increase self confidence and raise self esteem if the games are varied and played for short spells of about 10 minutes daily.

  Suitable for young people age 5 and upwards.

- **BrainBox Games – The Green Board Games Company, available from the Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

  Card memory games which help develop observation and short-term memory skills.

  There are eight boxed games, 'My First BrainBox' for non readers, and assorted topics like dinosaurs, animals, football are for age 8 years and over. The games are simple, compulsive and great fun, for one or more players. Home and school use.

- **Stile self Checking Tray System – LDA www.ldalearning.com**

  This is a popular multisensory resource suitable for primary age learners and up to 14 year old pupils who have a learning difficulty. Youngsters find the self checking system non threatening and enjoyable, providing an instant visual display in the

shape of a pattern of tiles. This system is perfect for individual or paired activities during literacy sessions.

'**Starter Stile'** has an eight tile tray for use with graded activities for young learners age 4 to 7 years. '**Pre-reading', 'Early Reading', 'Phonics for Reading and Spelling**' all provide valuable reinforcement exercises for this age group.
'**Style Dyslexia', 'Stile Comprehension', 'Stile Phonics and Spelling' and 'Stile Grammar and Punctuation'** series of books provide reinforcement exercises using a twelve tile tray.

- **Homonyms Puzzles – Smart Kids (www.smartkidscatalog.com)**

Homophones (homonyms) are words that sound the same, have different spellings and meanings. Young people often have difficulty with spelling some of the common words for example, pair/pare; brake/break; sea/see. This box of puzzles is a fun way to help reinforce these confusable words and is self correcting to can be completed independently. A multisensory resource for school and home.

- **Cryptic Compounds Puzzles – Smart Kids (www.smartkidscatalog.com)**

These are colourful, self-correcting four piece jigsaws to practise compound words like goldfish, handbag, strawberry and toothbrush. Another resource suitable for the classroom and at home.

MATHS RESOURCES

- **Smart Chute – Smart Kids (www.smartkidscatalogue.com)**

Cards available for the posting box cover topics ranging from early counting activities and recognition of numbers to times tables, time, fractions, decimals and money problems for example. This is a simple, yet highly motivational resource for use at home and school. It is a great deal more fun than ordinary flash cards and children can work independently.

- **Tell the Time Lotto and Fraction Action Lotto – the Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

Enjoyable board games suitable for ages 5+, suitable for school and home.

- **Fraction Match – the Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

This game board has two games - basic fractions and equivalent fractions. Games suitable for age 6+, two to four players. School and home use.

- **Time Match – the Dyslexia Shop**

  This game board incorporates two games involving basic time concepts and analogue/digital clock times.
  Games suitable for age 6+, two to four players, school and home resource.

- **Maths Board Games – the Dyslexia Shop**

  Great value, three boxed sets, each box containing six games covering ages 5 to 11 years. Suitable for school and home practice.

- **Flexitable – (www.flexitable.co.uk)**

  This is a folding multiplication table made of flexible plastic, a really ingenious and helpful, pocket size, maths resource for helping children learn their tables, and division facts. It can also be used to spot number patterns, find square roots, multiples and reducing fractions and many other activities for individual or class practice.
  There are also tables for addition and subtraction facts and fractions.

- **Plus 1 and Power of 2 by David Sharp (www.powerof2.co.uk)**

  These are one to one maths coaching manuals; pupils gain a sense of achievement as they work through the manual. They start to increase the number of calculations they can do 'without thinking', if they 'know' certain facts they can concentrate on other aspects of their maths. Pupils need regular practice in these skills and will progress quicker if they can remember facts automatically without resorting to using their fingers.
  These manuals can be used at home and in school.

PHOTOCOPIABLE LANGUAGE RESOURCES

- **Fun Spelling Mnemonics – Literacy Support Centre, Croydon Council**
  Available from (**www.betterbooks.com ISBN 0 903712 85 7)**

  The mnemonics in this book provide catchy phrases illustrated by delightful child-orientated pictures to enable children to remember those 'tricky' words that cannot be spelt using sounds. This resource is especially helpful for dyslexic learners. Youngsters can be inspired to think up their own mnemonics and drawings.

- **Rhyming Spells – (www.msl-online.net)**

  This is a multisensory resource that has activities to reinforce the 'tricky' words some dyslexic learners have difficulty remembering how to spell. For example to, too, two; there, their and they're.

- **Proof Reading Activities – 'Be the Teacher' Books 1 and 2 (Spelling made Easy Series) by Violet Brand (www.BrandBooks.co.uk)**

  Photocopiable proof reading activities for children ages 5 to 11 years. The activities help children learn how to spell and practise proof reading skills. (Mainly for school use in conjunction with the 'Spelling Made Easy Series' multisensory scheme for teaching spelling.)

READING SUPPORT

- **Nessy Interactive Tales and reading Books – Net Educational Systems www.nessy.co.uk download stories and book orders. Also available from the Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**
  Animated children's stories suitable for home support, reading age 5 to 7 years. The stories are amusing, highly visual, interactive and motivational, providing a very useful bridge between listening and reading. The reading books are then the next step, giving reluctant readers the confidence to tackle reading books.

- **Dandelion Readers (www.phonicbooks.co.uk)**

  This is a highly structured synthetic phonics reading series which promotes blending as a principal strategy in learning to read. This series of beautifully illustrated readers are designed to teach reading in a sequence that builds on and supports previous learning. These books are excellent for struggling early readers as they provide practice and reinforcement of learned sounds with a photocopiable game in each booklet. These books are ideal for learners who struggle to learn 'sight' vocabulary, and allow them to experience success with reading without resorting to 'guessing' words or 'learning reading books by heart'. The font used and the cream coloured background make these books particularly 'dyslexia friendly'.

- **Reluctant Readers – Barrington Stoke publishers (www.barringtonstoke.co.uk) and The Dyslexia Shop (www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

  Barrington Stoke is an award winning publisher of fiction and non-fiction books especially suited to dyslexic and struggling readers of all ages, from reading age about 6 to 8+. The vocabulary, topics and illustrations are also appropriate for older children and teenagers who are reluctant readers. Many of the books are written by famous authors including Terry Deary, Jeremy Strong and Michael

Murpurgo. There are also titles available for adults with reading age 8+. The books are printed on off-white paper and a 'dyslexia friendly' modified font to make for easier reading.

- **'Toe by Toe' by Keda and Harry Cowling (www.toe-by-toe.co.uk)**

This is a highly structured multisensory reading manual which has been in use since 1993. It helps readers of all abilities and ages to grasp the fundamental building blocks of reading. It can take up to a year to complete on a one to one basis; can be used at home and at school.
2009 - An updated version with booklets splitting up the course into 'chunks' is being developed and will be published soon.

- **FirstNews (www.FirstNews.co.uk)**

This is a weekly newspaper for young people ages 8 to 12 years. It is packed full of interesting articles, quizzes and current news especially for this age group. It is ideal for school use and for young people to read at home. It can be ordered online and delivered to the young person or copies can be bought at WH Smith. Costs about £1.20 per copy.

DICTIONARIES

- **Primary Spelling Dictionary/Primary Dictionary of Perfect Spelling**
  By Christine Maxwell and Julia Rowlandson published by Barrington Stoke
  (www.barringtonstoke.co.uk)

This dictionary was developed by a teacher who taught pupils with dyslexia. These pupils generally have difficulties using a conventional dictionary as many dyslexic learners spell phonetically. This dictionary addresses this difficulty as the phonetic spelling is printed in red and the correct version is in black. This dictionary is very easy to use and has spelling rules, derivatives, irregular plurals, verb endings are given in full, comparative adjectives are also written in full.

- **Rhyming and Spelling Dictionary (www.acblack.com)**

This dictionary is a really useful, colourful and easy to use book. It is very helpful for young people when trying to write poetry and for easy access to rime word-banks for teaching spelling.

- **Electronic Dictionaries (www.franklin.com/uk or www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk)**

Franklin LWB-1216 Children's Dictionary was developed especially for primary age children and those with special needs. This dictionary has many useful features including a list of common confusables like 'see' and 'sea'. It provides correct spelling for words entered phonetically, thesaurus and games can be customised

to practice user's own bank of 'tricky' words. It is also a calculator with maths tutor and comes with a complete guide for parents and teachers.

CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS

• **Writer's Planner (www.smartkids.co.uk)**
This is a fifty page individualised writing planner for fiction and non-fiction writing. Pages include ideas for adding interest to a young person's writing with space for student's own ideas and word banks. It gives definitions of and how to use personification, alliteration, simile, metaphor, idiom, cliché, synonyms and antonyms. Ideas on how to plan, structure and edit. There is also a page of 'story starters' and space for the student to add their own.
This is a handy paperback ideal for school and home use.

• **'Descriptosaurus 'by Alison Wilcox (ISBN 978 0 415 46835 0, Routledge www.routledge.com/education)**
This excellent book supports creative writing for ages 8 to 14. It is the antidote to 'the blank page syndrome', written by a Scottish teacher as a result of feedback from children about what resources they required to inspire and assist them with their writing. It is an ideal resource for pupils, parents and professionals alike.

SOME FREE DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCES

'Books for All'
www.ltscotland.org.uk/supportinglearners/additionalsupportneeds/dyslexia/resources.asp

Improving accessibility to curricular materials using Microsoft Word, Audio Books and advice on scanning books to make editable texts.

'AssistIT' is a Consultancy for Training in Assistive Technology
www.assist-it.org.uk There is an extensive selection of downloads to support learners with additional needs including:

Wordtalk a free text to speech utility that integrates into Word and has a talking dictionary. It can be used to help pupils read Word documents, such as teacher-produced materials, 5-14 tests or text cut and pasted from the internet. http://www.wordtalk.org.uk/Download/

A Scottish voice, 'Heather' is a free high quality computer voice for all Scottish schools and dyslexic learners available from CALL Scotland's website at http://www.TheScottishVoice.org.uk . The Scottish voice can be used to listen to Word documents via WordTalk and other curriculum resources available via 'Glow'.

My Learning Toolkit – learning toolbar customises text size, colour, research tools, confusable spellings for example

MyStudyBar is a collection of free software tools specially selected to help learners with literacy difficulties. It is a floating toolbar with applications grouped into common areas of difficulty; planning, reading, writing, vision and voice. It can be copied to a USB stick, thereby making the tools portable and usable on any PC. Available free to download from www.eduapps.org

ReadPlease is suitable for those who have a visual impairment and/or experience dyslexia. Easy to use by copying and pasting information from a word document or internet page. ReadPlease will read or echo back the copied text.

Phonetic speller Werdz – software developed by IBM that will correctly spell words such as 'sossidge' and many 'utha' words.

Screen Tinter Lite – allows an easy and quick way to change background and font colours for those experiencing visual stress symptoms.
http://www.thomson-software-solutions.com/html/screen_tinter.html

Ghotit Free online homophone spell checker (for schools) www.ghotit.com

Ginger Free software download for spelling and grammar suitable for dyslexic learners. www.gingersoftware.com

Memory – strategies for improving memory www.mindtools.com and www.thinkalink.co.uk

Maths – times tables resources www.learnyourtables.co.uk www.multiplication.com and www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesze/

Interactive Learning Activities 'Doorway Online' provides accessible interactive learning activities, free from the Scottish Borders Council www.doorwayonline.org.uk

Dancemat Typing free online typing tutor for ages 7 to 11 years
www.bbc.co.uk/typing/

USEFUL WEBSITES FOR INFORMATION ON DYSLEXIA

Dyslexia Scotland   www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk

Assessing Dyslexia Online Toolkit for teachers
http://www.frameworkforinclusion.org/assessingdyslexia

Curriculum for Excellence National Framework for supporting learning
http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/supportinglearners/whatissupport/thenationalframework.asp
Learning and Teaching Scotland (LTS)

http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/supportinglearners/additionalsupportneeds/dyslexia/index.
asp

CALL Scotland   www.callscotland.org.uk
AssistIT   www.assist-it.org.uk
Enquire (Scottish Advice Service)   www.enquire.org.uk
Special Needs Information Point   www.snipinfo.org
Supporting Dyslexic Pupils   www.supportingdyslexicpupils.org.uk
Online CPD for Educators   www.cpdbytes.org.uk
The British Dyslexia Association   www.bdadyslexia.org.uk
Dyslexia Action   www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk
The Dyslexia Shop   www.thedyslexiashop.co.uk
Improving Working Memory   www.junglememory.com
Eyecare-Plus Optometrist   www.edinburgh-eyetests.co.uk
Rainbow Readers   www.rainbowreaders.co.uk
Food and Behaviour Research   www.fabresearch.org
The Dyslexia Research Trust   www.dyslexic.org.uk
Indigo Dyslexia Centre   www.4dyslexics.com
Being Dyslexic   www.beingdyslexic.co.uk
Dyslexia Teaching Today (UK)   www.dyslexia-teacher.co.uk
Dyslexia Parents' Resource   www.dyslexia-parent.com

DYSLEXIA SCREENING & ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS

Assessing Dyslexia Toolkit for Teachers online resource (2010)
http://www.frameworkforinclusion.org/assessingdyslexia

ELECTRONIC SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT

1. **Lucid Baseline**
Lucid Research Ltd, 3 Spencer Street, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 9EL. Prices and Demo Discs available on request http://www.lucid-research.com/
Lucid Baseline – early years
A fully computerised baseline assessment system for evaluating children's abilities and levels of development when they first enter school. It was developed in conjunction with a three-year research programme at the University of Hull. The modules in Lucid Baseline provide assessment of:
   • Literacy
   • Mathematics
   • Communication skills
   • Personal and social development
Lucid Baseline is easy to administer and does not require complex assessment procedures to be learned. The tests are non-threatening and enjoyable for young children. Each module takes about 5 minutes, giving an overall assessment in 20 minutes.
Lucid Baseline provides the teacher with an instant picture of the new intake and a profile of the each new entrant. This profile will establish levels and ranges of ability, identifying strengths and limitations.

Primary years

Product	Ages	Primary Age Products
Lucid ViSS	7-11	Quick screening assessment for visual stress/discomfort, Meares-Irlen, scotopic sensitivity syndrome
Lucid Ability	4-8	Quick assessment of ability for readers and non-readers (verbal reasoning and mental rotation)
Lucid Ability	7-12	Quick assessment of ability for readers and non-readers (verbal reasoning and non-verbal reasoning)
Lucid Rapid	4-15	Quick screening for dyslexia. Results export to/integrate with Lucid CoPS, LASS Junior and Secondary
Lucid CoPS	4-8	Cognitive profiling – memory (auditory and visual), phonic/phonological, auditory discrimination
LASS Junior	8-11	Cognitive profiling + attainment and ability – memory, phonic/phonological, reading, spelling, non-verbal reasoning

Lucid ViSS is an objective test for visual stress which identifies children most likely to benefit from coloured overlays. It does not specify what colour would be appropriate.

Lucid Ability is an overall measure of general conceptual ability which is a useful estimate of general intelligence. The manual explains how to interpret the results and their implications for learning. It is validated against a range of instrument including WISC III[uk], BAS 2nd edition, BPVS 2nd edition, and NFER-Nelson Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning Tests (standardised using a sample of over 2300 children across the age and ability range).

Lucid Rapid is a quick screening test with low rates of false positives and false negatives. It consists of three enjoyable tests: phonological processing; working memory; decoding skills or visual verbal integration memory. Immediate results come on a simple print out. It can be administered effectively by non-teaching staff. Guidance is given on differentiated action after screening.

Lucid CoPS assesses phonological awareness, phoneme discrimination, auditory short-term memory, visual short-term memory and visual and verbal sequencing. It provides early identification of cognitive difficulties that can interfere with children's learning and flags up those at risk of dyslexia.

LASS Junior is a multifunctional assessment which identifies dyslexia while assessing attainments in reading and spelling, measuring discrepancies between actual and expected literacy attainment, identifying problems in memory and phonological skills, monitoring reading and spelling development, estimating intelligence, and providing support evidence for special exam arrangements.

2. **Dyslexia Screener**

Authors: Turner, Martin & Smith, Pauline
Publisher: Granada Learning (http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk)
Cost: £195 plus annual licence
Date: 2004
Online 2009   demo http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/dyslexia

Purpose:
To diagnose pupils age 5-16 years with dyslexic characteristics through evaluation of:
- Non-verbal reasoning
- Phonics
- Spelling
- Visual search
- Reading
- Verbal reasoning

Evaluation:
As an initial diagnostic tool, it enables you to distinguish between poor reading ability and dyslexia, and gives advice on next steps.
- Adaptive testing provides rich and relevant information
- Standardised scores enable comparison of pupils' results to the national average
- Instant scoring and analysis give immediate feedback
- Simple to administer and accessible to use
- Suitable for a wide range of pupils
- Designed by experts in dyslexia assessment and diagnosis

3. **Single Word Spelling Test**
Authors: Sacre, L & Masterson J
Publisher: Granada Learning
(http://www.gl-
assessment.co.uk/education/online_testing/documents/SWSTSampleReport.pdf)
Cost: £250
Date: 2006
Digital version - best purchased following consultation with a trained representative - call 0845 602 1937 to discuss digital assessment needs.

The Single Word Spelling Test is a series of nine standardised tests designed to assess the spelling attainment of 6 to 14 year olds, which have been digitised to allow pupils' spelling to be assessed electronically. Each test covers everyday vocabulary and contains between 30-50 words (depending on level) including high frequency, literacy hour and spelling bank words.

The Single Word Spelling Test Digital consists of nine tests. It provides you with an instant group report featuring:
- Spelling ages
- Percentile ranks
- Standard scores
- Question by question analysis against national scores
- Analysis by word level against national scores

In addition to the group report, children's individual responses are also available and data can be exported so that results can be further analysed and specific weaknesses addressed.

Evaluation:
- Provides instant scoring, detailed analysis and reporting
- Results put target words in context
- Pupils find computer-based testing more motivating and less daunting than paper tests
- All instructions and administration of questions given orally so no reading is involved.

4. **Automated Working Memory Assessment (AWMA)**
Authors: Tracy Packiam Alloway
Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)
Cost: complete kit from £184
Date: 2007

Purpose:
To screen for working memory impairments in the age range 4 to 22 years.
The AWMA is a pc-based assessment of working memory skills with a user-friendly interface. This tool provides a practical and convenient way for teachers and psychologists to screen for significant working memory problems.

PART ELECTRONIC SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT

1. **Children's Test of Non-word Repetition**

Authors: SE Gathercole and AD Baddeley
Publisher: The Psychological Corporation (http://www.psychcorp.co.uk)
Cost: £86.50 complete kit
Date: 1996

Purpose:
This is a test of short term, or working, memory, standardised with children between four and eight years. It consists of 40 non-words such a 'dopelate' and skiticult' presented on a CD. Non-word repetition provides a sensitive measure of short term memory skills, which are required if children are to blend and build the component sounds of letters in unfamiliar words.

Evaluation:
   • The test performance provides a better predictor than digit span of children's later achievements in the key curriculum areas of English and reading.
   • Because the test uses unfamiliar spoken items which are not part of the English language, it does not disadvantage children with a less rich environmental experience of language.
   • It is rapid to administer and easy for children to understand.
   • It has excellent correlation with later school performance.

As a purely verbal task it does not expose children to print and this has a wide applicability. Unfamiliar spoken items do not disadvantage children with less rich language experience. The instructions were designed for young children, but bearing this in mind it can provide useful information with regard to the older learners with literacy difficulties.

2. **Special Needs Assessment Profile** (**SNAP-SpLD) Version 3**

Authors: Weedon, C & Reid G
Publisher: Hodder Education (http://www.snapassessment.com/INFphon.htm)
Cost: CD-ROM £199; Handbook £39.99; Pupil Assessment Pack £19.99
Date: 2008

Purpose:
A computer-aided diagnostic assessment and profiling tool for use with the 5 to 14 age group. It breaks down Specific Learning Difficulties into 24 different areas, aiding the teacher to identify clusters of weakness. A SNAP profile gives 'core' and 'expanded' views of difficulties and associated factors, including self-esteem.

You can superimpose and compare any two previous SNAP3 profiles, enabling you to review a pupil's progress and see at a glance where responses to individual questions have changed – for better or worse – in successive assessments.

SNAP involves four steps:

Step 1: (Pupil assessment pack): structured questionnaire checklists for completion by class teachers and parents give an outline of a child's difficulties.

Step 2: (CD-ROM) the teacher collates the parent and teacher responses, pinpointing any diagnostic follow-up assessment which may be needed.

Step 3: (User's kit): focused assessments from a photocopiable resource bank of quick diagnostic 'probes' yield a detailed and textured understanding of the child's difficulties.

Step 4: (CD-ROM) the computer generated profile offers specific guidance on support (including personalised information sheets for parents) and practical follow-up activities.

Evaluation:
- SNAP-SpLD is user-friendly, structured and systematic: it maps each child's own mix of problems onto an overall matrix of learning, social and personal difficulties
- SNAP-SpLD version 3 gives a computer-aided diagnostic profile across 24 specific learning difficulties and associated factors, including self-esteem

NON-ELECTRONIC SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT

1. **Dyslexia Early Screening Test, Second Edition (DEST-2)**

Authors: R Nicholson and A Fawcett

Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)

Cost: £146.00 complete kit

Date: second edition 2004

Purpose:
These tests help to profile strengths and weaknesses often associated with dyslexia. The DEST is normed for age 4.5 years to 6.5 years and consists of 12 subtests:
- Rapid naming
- Bead threading
- Phonological discrimination
- Postural stability
- Rhyme/Alliteration
- Forwards digit span
- Digit naming
- Letter naming
- Sound order
- Shape copying
- Corsi frog
- Vocabulary (group/individual)

These determine whether a young child is experiencing difficulty in areas known to be affected in dyslexia. An 'at risk' score for dyslexia determines whether further in-depth testing should be undertaken. A profile of skills provides valuable information that can be used to guide in-school support.

Evaluation:
Practitioners should separate judgements of 'at-risk' from judgements regarding the identification of dyslexia – the 'risk' is of any dyslexia present having a negative impact on learning. The DEST-2 includes two additional subtests, clinical research data, a new 'at risk' category and scoring software.

2. **Dyslexia Screening Test Junior (DST-J)**

Authors: R Nicholson and A Fawcett

Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)

Cost: £146.00 complete kit

Date: 2004

The DST-J (for 6.5 years to 11.5 years) provides a profile of strengths and weaknesses which can be used to guide the development of in-school support for the child. The DST-J consists of the following subtests:

- Rapid Naming
- Bead Threading
- One Minute Reading
- Postural Stability
- Phonemic Segmentation
- Two Minute Spelling
- Backwards Digit Span
- Nonsense Passage Reading
- One Minute Writing
- Verbal Fluency
- Rhyme **NEW**
- Vocabulary **NEW**

Evaluation:

New theoretical developments in dyslexia research suggest that it should be possible to identify both slow learners and dyslexic children at the **age of 5 or 6 years**, in time for greater reading support. The DST-J is designed for early identification of children who are 'at risk' of reading failure so that they can be given extra support at school. The DST-J reflects changes in theory and practice since the publication of the original DST and has additional subtests, validation studies and case histories and scoring software.

3. **Dyslexia Portfolio**

Author: Martin Turner

Publisher: Granada Learning   (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=386
               www.dyslexiaportfolio.co.uk)

Cost: £150

Date: 2008

The Dyslexia Portfolio comprises eight short tests for use with pupils in the 6-16 age range who have already been screened as having dyslexic characteristics or whose literacy attainment is giving cause for concern that they may be dyslexic.

- Single Word Reading: A version of GL Assessment's Single Word Reading Test.
- Single Word Spelling: Adapted from Single Word Spelling Test with words on a common scale for selection by the teacher at each student's level.
- Reading Fluency: A silent reading exercise where the student is asked to answer 'yes' or 'no' to a series of statements (a timed test).
- Phoneme Deletion: Students are required to analyse how a word will sound without the initial, middle or final phoneme and say it aloud.

- Non-word Reading: A test that assesses the decoding of letter strings. Students read nonsense words from print.
- Rapid Picture Naming: Students are presented with a series of pictures of everyday objects and asked to name them (a timed test).
- Rate of Writing: Students are asked to copy from printed text and complete a free writing task from a given prompt (a timed test).
- Digit Span: Students are required to repeat either backwards or forwards a string of digits that are given by the teacher.

4. **WIAT-II UK for Teachers**

Assesses single word reading, reading comprehension, reading speed and spelling in one assessment

Author: David Wechsler
Publisher: Pearson Assessment
(http://www.psychcorp.co.uk/Education/Assessments/Achievement/WIAT-IIUKforTeachers(WIAT-IIUK-T)/WIAT-IIUKforTeachers(WIAT-IIUK-T).aspx)
Cost: £257.50 (Complete kit price)
Date: 2006
Age Range: 4 to 85 years (17 to 85 years are US norms)

The test offers subtests in the three key areas of reading:
- untimed single word accuracy
- reading comprehension
- reading speed

Evaluation:
This test designed for administration by specialist teachers provides up-to-date UK norms for children and adolescents. Reading Rate is calculated from the Reading Comprehension subtest and identifies the slow and accurate, slow and inaccurate, fast and accurate and fast and inaccurate reader.

5. **Raven's Educational**

This important instrument has now been re-standardised for the UK population.

Author: JC Raven et al
Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)
Cost: £243.50 per full kit
Date: 2008

- **Raven's - Educational CPM/CVS**
  Individually administered test for children aged 4 to 11 years
- **Raven's - Educational SPM+/MHV**
  Individually and Group administered test for children and adolescents aged 7 to 18 years

Purpose:
Measures non-verbal and verbal aspects of general ability in children age 4 to 11 years or 7 to 18 years to observe and think out relationships between abstract figures. The

problems are ordered so that picking up the underlying logic will lead to easier solution of the later items. Often used in conjunction with a test of vocabulary. Together this would give a measure of verbal and non verbal abilities.

Evaluation:
An enjoyable, easily administered test that is extremely flexible in operation and can be usefully used over a wide range of subjects. It gives a good estimate of non-verbal intelligence reducing problems of educational or cultural bias found in other tests. The re-standardisation means that you can confidently use the Raven's to assess non-verbal and verbal aspect of general ability for children in the UK. Along with this standardisation, Pearson Assessment has completed an extensive redesign of the product, simplifying and updating materials. This makes the test more attractive and easier to use.

6. **The Aston Index**
Test Authors: Margaret Newton and Michael Thomson
Publisher: LDA (http://www.LDAlearning.com)
Cost: £69.99
Date: 2003 (revised edition Margaret Newton)
There are 16 separate tests, four of which are only given to older children. The tests are administered to the individual child in a quiet setting - usually over several sessions, total administration time is up to 60 minutes.

Purpose:
Designed for use by classroom teachers. The battery of tests are organised into 2 levels. Level 1 is for 4 to 6 year olds and Level 2 is for 7 year olds upwards. The test can be used with children not making satisfactory progress with literacy skills and thought to be at risk.

Evaluation:
The Index gathers together in a compact and useful format a number of classroom techniques and tests which teachers should be familiar with. Valuable for investigating various aspects of a child's functioning and profiling strengths and weaknesses.

7. **British Picture Vocabulary Scale (BPVS 3rd Edition)**
Test Authors: Loydd M Dunn, Leota M Dunn, Chris Whetton and Juliet Burley
Publisher: Grenada Learning (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=304)
Cost: £155.00
Date: revised edition 2009

Purpose:
The BVPS can be used as an initial screener to show the extent of a child's English vocabulary acquisition. It is a test of hearing vocabulary for Standard English and is useful for a variety of groups pre-school, early and general school use, EAL students, non-readers and pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder. It can be used from 2 years old to adult.

Evaluation:
The test is well constructed to give a quick and efficient measure of current receptive vocabulary. The British Picture Vocabulary Scale:
- Provides a standard age score and a receptive vocabulary age equivalent
- Contains 168 reliable test items, including a wide variety of stimulus words
- Offers separate norms for pupils who have English as an additional language

It is likely, in the light of other research, to have a strong connection with verbal IQ. The manual is extremely verbose and scoring involves many tables

8. **Working Memory Rating Scale (WMRS)**
Checklist to identify children with poor working memory skills
Test Authors: Tracy Packiam Alloway, Susan Gathercole and Hannah Kirkwood
Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)
Cost: £38.00 complete kit
Date: 2008
Age Range: 5 to 11 years

Purpose:
The Working Memory Rating Scale (WMRS) is a behavioural rating scale developed for teachers to facilitate easy identification of children with working memory deficits.

Evaluation:
Currently, teachers rarely identify memory as a source of difficulty in children with working memory problems, despite their poor classroom functioning. Instead, children with memory problems are typically described as inattentive. The WMRS will increase the chances of the detection and subsequent effective support in school for children with deficits of working memory.

9. **Test of Word finding (2nd edition)**
Author: Diane J German
Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)
Cost: £403
Date: 2000

Purpose:
To diagnose word-finding disorders in children age 4 to 12 years 11 months, this test uses four different naming sections to test a child's word finding ability:
- Picture Naming Nouns: an assessment of accuracy and speed when naming compound and one to four syllable target words.
- Sentence Completion Naming: an assessment of accuracy when naming target words to complete a sentence read by the examiner.
- Picture Naming Verbs: an assessment of accuracy when naming pictures depicting verbs in the progressive and past tense forms.
- Picture Naming Categories: an assessment of accuracy and speed when naming objects and the distinct categories to which they belong.

To be sure that the child's word finding evaluation is based on words the child knows there is a Comprehension Assessment to test the child's comprehension of the items missed during the naming accuracy testing.

Evaluation:
Five supplemental analyses are provided as follow-up procedures to the TWF-2 word finding measures:
- the Phonemic Cueing Procedure
- the Imitation Procedure
- the Substitution Analysis
- the Delayed Response Procedure
- the Secondary Characteristics Tally

The assessor gains critical information from these analyses that will both enhance the interpretation of a child's test performance and help to formulate a word finding intervention plan.

10. **Preschool and Primary Inventory of Phonological Awareness (PIPA)**

Authors: Barbara Dodd, Sharon Crosbie, Beth McIntosh, Tania Teitzel and Anne Ozanne

Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)

Cost: £107.50 complete kit

Date: 2000

Purpose:
To identify children (3 years to 6 years 11 months) at risk from literacy problems. PIPA assesses the nature and extent of a child's phonological awareness development. Six subtests (three for young children) assess ability to detect, isolate, manipulate and convert sound units at the syllable, onset-rime and phoneme levels.
- Syllable Segmentation
- Rhyme Awareness
- Alliteration Awareness
- Phoneme Isolation
- Phoneme Segmentation
- Letter Knowledge

Evaluation:
Features include:
- UK norms
- Standard scores and percentile ranks
- Profile graph
- Full colour stimulus material
- Case histories

11. **Listening Skills test (List)**

Authors: Peter Lloyd, Ian Peers and Caroline Foster
Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)
Cost: £94.50 complete kit
Date: 2001

Assess oracy skills in young children age 3 years 6 months to 6 years 11 months. Four subtests assess the ability to evaluate language and monitor comprehension.
- Referent Identification (Detect ambiguity in messages with pictorial referents)
- Message Appraisal (Judge utterances about an illustrated event)
- Comprehension of Directions (Follow extended discourse)
- Verbal Message Evaluation (Evaluate verbal statements without pictorial referents)

Features:
- Suitable for young children
- Easy to administer and score
- UK-developed
- Fully standardised
- Colour stimuli
- Score graph profile
- Case examples
- Suggestions for remediation

12. **Phonological Assessment Battery (PhAB)**

Authors: N Frederickson, U Frith and R Reason
Publisher: Granada Learning (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=351)
Cost: £110
Date: 1997

Purpose:
The Phonological Assessment Battery (PhAB) identifies those children age 6 years to 14 years 11 months who need help by providing an individual assessment of the child's phonological skills. It comprises six tests of phonological processing, including:
- Alliteration
- Naming Speed
- Rhyme
- Spoonerisms
- Fluency
- Non-word Reading test

Evaluation:
This battery of tests:
- Provides a clear understanding of a child's level of skill
- Helps teachers to prevent potential problems and remedy existing ones
- Ideal for use with children who have English as an additional language

- Can be used in conjunction with the Test of Word and Grammatical Awareness to establish a child's all-round meta-linguistic ability

The manual gives information on test interpretation and programme planning. PhAB is a useful tool with bilingual learners and gives a good measure of how pupils are responding to interventions.

13. **Graded Non-word reading test**

Authors: Margaret Snowling, Susan Stothard and Janet McLean
Publisher: Pearson Assessment (www.psychcorp.co.uk)
Cost: £98.50
Date: 1996

Purpose:
To identify reading difficulties associated with impaired phonological skills in children age 5 years to 11 years this test provides a pure test of phonological decoding by asking children to read non-words that they have not seen before.

Evaluation:
Some children can read words visually, and this may mask an underlying phonological reading problem. Such children will have great difficulty in working out novel printed words - that is, those for which they do not have a visual memory. The test:
- Takes about 5 minutes and is easy to use.
- Is graded to allow discontinuation in the face of difficulty.
- Assessment of whether a child's non-word reading score is at the expected level for their age.
- Is useful in the diagnosis of developmental dyslexia.
- Enables you to look for discrepancies between word and non-word reading ability. If a child's reading age is known, it is possible to derive a reading age equivalent score for comparison purposes

The test can be used diagnostically when setting up educational programmes.

14. **Wordchains**

Author: LM Guron
Publisher: Granada Learning (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=379)
Cost: £45
Date: 2003

Purpose:
A group reading test designed for the early identification of word recognition difficulties by screening for individual difficulties. The test comprises Letter chains, an initial screen for visual-motor dysfunction, while Word chains provides clear evidence of word reading skills for all ages. It can give an indicator of whole class performance and can also give a measure of individual pupils' progress over time.

Evaluation:
Wordchains can be used quickly and easily in the classroom.
- Can be administered at regular intervals
- A useful indicator of class performance
- Delivers scores that can be converted to year group equivalents
- Provides you with a Word Recognition Age
- Provides a method of evaluating remedial teaching programmes.

15. **Single Word Reading Test**
Authors: Helen Foster, National Foundation for Educational Research
Publisher: Granada Learning (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=361)
Cost: £80
Date: 2008

Purpose:
The *Single Word Reading Test* 6-16 (SWRT6-16) provides a measure of a child's word reading skill and will contribute to an assessment of reading achievement, as well as informing teaching and learning strategies. This quick and effective assessment of reading contains six graded sets of ten words of increasing difficulty.

Evaluation:
SWRT6-16 is ideal as a quick screening test, for checking progress at regular intervals
- Parallel forms allow repeat testing
- Provides standard age score and reading ages
- Gives diagnostic information in the form of sight vocabulary analysis and error analysis
- Completely photocopiable

16. **Neale Analysis of Reading Ability II (NARA II)**
Author: Marie D Neale
Publisher: NFER-Nelson (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=345)
Cost: £99
Date: Second British standardised edition 1997, 2003

Purpose:
NARA Ii is test of oral reading, based on a series of short narratives, providing summative measures and detailed diagnostic information, scored for accuracy, comprehension and rate of reading. It is to be used with children age 6 to 12 years 11 months, younger advanced readers and older children with reading difficulties. NARA II is both an attainment and a diagnostic test that can be used to monitor progress in reading and used to identify particular needs so that appropriate teaching programmes can be implemented. It provides standardised scores, reading ages, parallel forms for testing and extension passages for use with more able or older pupils. NARA II consists of two alternate standardised tests so that children's performance can be monitored without them becoming too familiar with the passages and one diagnostic test:
- Match reading materials to children's abilities
- Check specific skills have been acquired

- Gauge children's interest in reading
- Establish a good working relationship with an individual or small group at the start of tutoring

Evaluation:
This is one of the best tests of its kind. As a test of reading, it is enjoyable to children and has a high validity. The instructions are clear and the manual easy to follow.

17. **York Assessment of Reading Comprehension (YARC)**
YARC enables teachers to assess reading and comprehension skills in children aged 4 to 11.
Authors: Margaret J Snowling, Susan E Stothard, Paula Clarke, Claudine Bowyer-Crane, Angela Harrington, Emma Truelove and Charles Hulme - University of York, Centre for Reading and Language
Publisher: Granada Learning (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=428)
Cost: £190 (complete set)
Date: 2009

YARC consists of two suites of assessments – Early Reading (for pupils aged 4 to 6) and Passage Reading (for pupils aged 5 to 11).
View a sample of this test: http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/downloads/yarc.pd

Purpose:
For less skilled readers, *YARC Early Reading* assesses the alphabetic knowledge that underlies reading, namely:
• Letter sound knowledge
• Early Word Recognition
• Phoneme awareness (sound isolation and sound deletion)
YARC Passage Reading has been developed to assess the accuracy, rate and comprehension of oral reading skills in primary school children. It also provides a test of prose reading and comprehension, and assesses specifically three of the many sub-skills used in reading:
• Decoding (reading accuracy)
• Fluency (reading rate)
• Text Comprehension (literal and inferential meaning)

Evaluation:
It is ideal for following up at an individual level after group testing and provides a wide range of invaluable information.

18. **WellComm: A Speech and Language Toolkit for the Early Years**
Authors: Sandwell Primary Care Trust
Publisher: Granada Learning (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=462)
Cost: £250
Date: 2010
WellComm is a complete speech and language toolkit for all Early Years practitioners.

Evaluation:
The toolkit deploys a unique traffic light system that clearly identifies children requiring immediate intervention, as well as those who show potential language difficulties:
- Aids early identification of speech and language difficulties
- Signals when intervention and referral are necessary
- Provides intervention strategies
- Ideal authority-wide screening tool
- Requires minimal training
- Easy to use

The Big Book of Ideas provides practitioners with photocopiable focused intervention activities to meet individual needs as identified through the screening process.

19. **Single Word Spelling Test**

Authors: Lesley Sacre and Jackie Masterson
Publisher: Granada Learning (http://shop.gl-assessment.co.uk/home.php?cat=362)
Cost: £80
Date: 2001

A series of nine standardised tests designed to assess the spelling attainment of 6-14 year olds. Each test covers everyday vocabulary and contains between 30-50 words (depending on level) including high frequency, literacy hour and spelling bank words.

Evaluation:
Single Word Spelling Test is fully photocopiable and provides:
- Spelling Ages
- Standard Scores
- Percentile Ranks
- Progress Scores
- Structured Analysis of Spelling Errors
- Supplementary Assessments
- Structured Spelling Lists

Dyslexia Scotland is the voluntary organisation representing the needs and interests of dyslexic people in Scotland.

Mission statement

To encourage and enable dyslexic people, regardless of their age and abilities to reach their potential in education, employment and life.

Dyslexia Helpline: 0844 800 8484 – Monday to Friday from 10am-4pm.

Supporting Pupils with Dyslexia at Primary School is a series of titles for primary school teachers throughout Scotland. They are intended to inform parents and teachers about how dyslexia might affect a child in order to enable them to remove the barriers to learning that they often experience.

The pack of 8 titles:

- ▪ Is an authoritative resource to help teachers when making provision to meet the additional needs of pupils with dyslexia as described in the Scottish Government's Supporting Children's Learning: Code of Practice 2010 (chapter 2)

- ▪ Provides class teachers with practical information and helpful tips on how to support pupils with dyslexia achieve academic success in the Curriculum for Excellence (literacy and numeracy)

- ▪ Offers specific guidance for Support for Learning teachers and school managers on their roles in supporting pupils with dyslexia

- ▪ Explores the need for direct and open communication with parents of children with dyslexia

- ▪ Includes handy photocopiable material in each of the eight titles

- ▪ Can be viewed online at www.supportingdyslexicpupils.org and downloaded free of charge from www.dyslexiascoland.org.uk

Supporting Pupils with Dyslexia at Primary School is an adaptation by the committee members of Dyslexia Scotland South East of *an original work by Meg Houston*

'There are many aspects relating to dyslexia that can be misunderstood unless a clear set of materials, such as this pack, are available. These booklets are therefore timely and essential'

Dr Gavin Reid