

# Reading Disabilities & MSR

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# Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD)

When provided with appropriate learning opportunities, children with specific learning disabilities do not achieve commensurate with age and ability level in one or more of the following areas:

- (1) Basic reading skills;
- (2) Reading comprehension;
- (3) Oral expression;
- (4) Listening comprehension;
- (5) Mathematical calculation;
- (6) Mathematical problem solving;
- (7) Written expression; and
- (8) Reading fluency.



## Determining a Reading Disability

N.J.A.C. 6A:14, Special Education Code

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- i. A specific learning disability can be determined when a severe discrepancy is found between the student's current achievement and intellectual ability in one or more of the following Reading areas:
- (1) Basic reading skills
- (2) Reading comprehension
- (8) Reading fluency

ii. A specific learning disability may also be determined by utilizing a response to scientifically based interventions methodology as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4(h)6.

"Learning disabilities describes a condition of unexpected underachievement – in which academic performance significantly below what would be predicted from the individual's talents and potential shown in other areas" (Smith & Tyler, 2009)

# Evaluations Completed to Determine a Specific Learning Disability in the Area of Reading:

Psychological Evaluation Ex: WISC-V or WJ-Cognitive

Ex: WIAT-4 or WJ-IV

12. "Specific learning disability" means a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations, including conditions, such as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia.

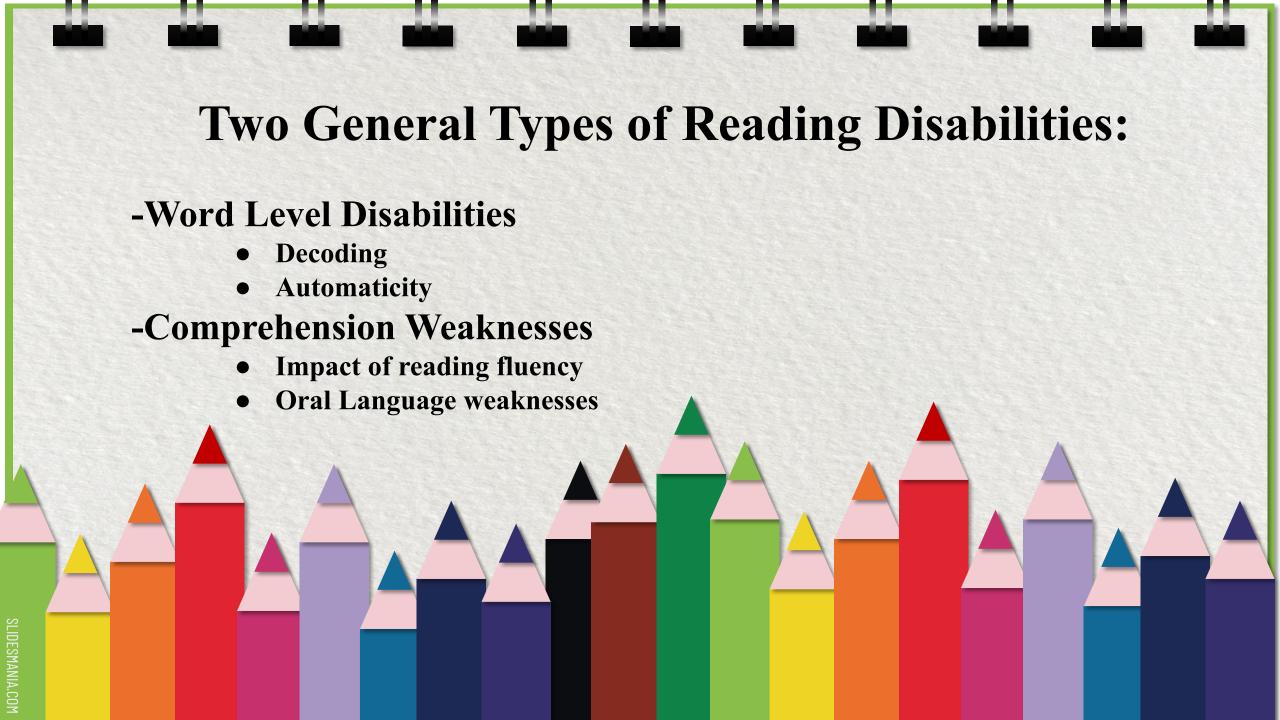
## What does a Reading Disability Look Like?

# Different for each individual learner



Can be a Combination of any/all of the following:

- Difficulty sounding out words
- Difficulty automatically recognizing sight words
- A lack of fluency when reading
- Difficulty comprehending what was just read
- Reading significantly below grade level



#### Scarborough's Reading Rope



#### LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION

BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE (facts, concepts, etc.)

VOCABULARY (breadth, precision, links, etc.)

LANGUAGE STRUCTURES (syntax, semantics, etc.)

VERBAL REASONING (inference, metaphor, etc.)

LITERACY KNOWLEDGE (print concepts, genres, etc.)

#### SKILLED READING:

Fluent execution and coordination of word recognition and text comprehension.

#### WORD RECOGNITION

PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS (syllables, phonemes, etc.)

DECODING (alphabetic principle, spelling-sound correspondences)

SIGHT RECOGNITION (of familiar words)



## Support for Students with Reading Disabilities

#### **Phonological Awareness:**

- listening games and activities
- modeled activities with manipulatives

#### Word Reading:

- sound and syllable patterns
- prefixes/suffixes

#### Fluency:

- repeated readings
- reading aloud
- reading poetry

#### Comprehension/Vocabulary:

- active reading strategies
- guided reading questions
- synonyms/real-life applications

## The ABCs of MSR

**Active learning** 

Based on research

Components of language taught

Multiple senses engaged

Structured, sequencial, success-oriented

Reading and spelling skills

## Multisensory Reading (MSR)

Multisensory Reading is an instructional approach to teaching reading:

- All special education teachers can use this approach for students that require it
- Developed to support students who have difficulties with basic reading and spelling
- Proven effective in small group and whole class instruction
- Focused on phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, and vocabulary instruction

# MSR Interventions: When are they needed?



## **Kindergarten - Grade 2:**

• MSR strategies embedded in replacement reading instruction

## Grade 3+ Students who are struggling to decode:

- Use variety of measures to determine areas of need (CST assessments, Gallistel-Ellis Test of Coding Skills, Phonological Awareness Profile (PAP), running records)
- Design MSR interventions to meet individual student needs

## Components of MSR

Targeted instruction in basic reading and spelling skills through a multisensory structured-language approach

#### What is taught? Language

## speech sound system (phonology)

- sound/symbol association, the writing system (orthography)
- structure of sentences (syntax)
- meaningful parts of word (morphology)
- relationships among words (semantics)

#### How is Language taught in MSR?

- driven by student's individual goals
- intensive direct/explicit instruction
- systematic/sequential based on student's needs
- multisensory
- cumulative
- extensive review
- focused on gaining independence

## MSR Sample Lesson Components

#### Kindergarten - Grade 5

Grade 6 - Grade 12

Reading of Sounds

Spelling of Sounds (Auditory)

Phonemic Awareness or Morphological Awareness

**Blending Sounds** 

Words for Oral Reading

Spelling Dictation of Words and Sentences

New Material

Red Words

Connected Text

As needed:

Fluency Activities



Reading of Sounds
Spelling of Sounds (Auditory)

Morphological Awareness

Words for Oral Reading

Spelling Dictation of Words and Sentences

New Material

Red Words

Connected Text

As needed:

**Blending Sounds** 

Phonemic Awareness

Fluency Activities



## Spectrum of Supports, Based on Needs

- Multisensory Reading Class: Direct Instruction
- Multisensory Reading Consultation: Support for Educational Staff to Support Students
- Staff Development: General and Special Education Coordination and Planning



Thank you!