

Commonly Asked

Questions:

Q: My child has signs of dyslexia. Can you help him?

A: We have experience treating various kids with a diagnosis of dyslexia or with red flags for dyslexia and have seen significant progress and growth. The meaning-based approach helps integrate other aspects of reading and writing to decrease the main focus on graphophonics which is the area kids with dyslexia are known to have the most difficulties.

Q: How will the therapist help my child become a better reader/writer?

A: The highly-trained therapists will meet your child at his/her current level and provide individualized support to improve their ability to be a meaningful reader. The therapists are trained to use strategies specifically tailored to the child's needs at just the moment the child needs them. The therapist can also provide you, the parent, with support to work with your child in the home environment.

Q: Why is a context so important?

A: Context or reading words within a book is extremely important. Without a context you cannot integrate all of the pieces of the puzzle mentioned above. For example, the word "rose" has two different meanings depending on how you use it, but it sounds the exact same in both contexts. It can be a noun (ie. flower) or the past tense form of a verb (ie. rise). When seeing this word on a list or out of context, it is difficult for children to use strategies to predict what the word is or what the word means. In a study by Ken Goodman, first graders could read two out of three words in a story that they could not identify on a list.

Q: Is recognizing letters and the sounds they make important?

A: Yes, but this is just one piece of the puzzle. There are 4 pieces of the puzzle that must be integrated together in order to read effectively and efficiently. If more emphasis is placed on just one of the pieces, reading fluency and comprehending become more difficult.

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Reading & Writing Intervention

Improving literacy skills
within an authentic
learning environment.



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therapy
—and—
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Meaning-Based Perspective

The meaning-based approach focuses on improving reading and writing abilities through actual reading and writing for authentic purposes. It emphasizes the importance of “making-sense” or comprehending text within a meaningful context. We support the children in integrating cueing systems to become a fluent, efficient, and meaningful reader. The four cueing systems include:

- Graphophonic System (relationships between sounds and print)
- Syntactic System (grammar)
- Semantic System (meaning)
- Pragmatic System (the linking of the other 3 cuing systems with background knowledge)



Who?

Your child may be eligible for our literacy support options if he/she has:

- Difficulties with reading/writing or poor grades in reading/writing in school
- Difficulty reading and responding to test questions
- A teacher who is concerned
- A diagnosis of a language delay, language disorder, developmental delay, dyslexia or Autism
- Red flags for potential reading and writing difficulties

“My son and I have tried various curriculums and approaches to help him overcome his dyslexia. The meaning-based approach has really helped my son make huge gains in his reading and writing. His reading fluency and test scores in school have improved so much that he is not far behind grade level. Most of all I have seen his confidence in reading increase. It is definitely a method I wish we would have known about many years ago.”

-- Angela, PTLC mom of Jacob

When?

Individual literacy support is available year-round while literacy group options are occasionally available.

Where?

Pediatric Therapy and Learning Center
108 Energy Parkway, Lafayette, LA.

How do I sign up?

If you'd like to find out more about our individual or group literacy options, please contact Kourtnei Hayes, MS, CCC-SLP at Kourtnei@pediatrictlc.com or call 504-4244.

