



## **Learning Disabilities and its Signs. How to Identify Learners with Learning Disabilities**

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This article summarizes some of the common warning signs of learning disabilities for preschool, elementary, and secondary school children and youth. As the name implies, LD is a condition that affects learning, and sooner or later is manifested by poor school performance, especially in reading, spelling, and writing. Being aware of the signs of learning disabilities will help parents determine if the child should be referred for evaluation. When the development or academic performance of a healthy child falls short of what is expected for his or her age and intelligence, parents or teachers may suspect the child has a learning disability (LD). In addition, LD is a lifelong condition, and can significantly impact relationships, daily activities, and eventually work and careers therefore, a diagnostic program is necessary to identify learners with learning disabilities. A significant part of selecting appropriate instructional approaches is: understanding the learning profile of an individual. A cognitive profile is also necessary to determine precisely what learners' needs are, their strengths and weaknesses, whether they have difficulty with working memory, if they have inadequate language skills, etc. It is during the elementary school years that learning problems frequently become apparent as disabilities interfere with increasingly demanding and complex learning tasks. Learners with learning disabilities need to be taught strategic approaches explicitly. They need to have ideas made conspicuously clear to them. Difficulties in learning academic subjects and emotional and/or social skills may become a problem. Warning signs for this age group may include any of those listed above for preschool children.