

## Dyslexia Test Results: Questions to Ask Your Child's Psychologist

What should parents ask post-testing? What is important for parents to know?

The testing process and feedback session can be overwhelming for parents. The most important piece they should walk away with is a complete picture of how their child learns. That means they should:

1. have an understanding of their potential, and whether their academic and processing skills are consistent with their potential.
2. ask the psychologist to help them understand the numbers and how they will be reported and interpreted.
3. feel comfortable with the "road map" that has been presented, based on their child's dyslexia test results.

When they receive the written report, there should not be any surprises. If there are, or if there is any confusion, parents should feel comfortable speaking or meeting with the psychologist again. If parents feel overwhelmed with the quantity of information they are receiving, they should ask the psychologist to help them prioritize interventions and recommendations. Often psychologists will recommend several interventions, for example, depending on each different individual's dyslexia test results. It is imperative that parents leave the office feeling that they can accomplish the goals. If overwhelmed, they are more likely to be paralyzed and the interventions or strategies get put on hold.

Another point that would be important for parents to address is the notion of monitoring and assessing progress. Sometimes, parents don't know that a re-evaluation is necessary down the road to enable accommodations and support to continue. Also, they need to be their child's advocate with regard to receiving support and services. It is not enough, for example, that a child receives an IEP. They need to be receiving specialized instruction as part of that IEP. Often, they are only getting the same instruction in a smaller group format, if that.