

The Science of Reading Webinar Series 2022/23

Inside Dyslexia & Strengthening the Lower Reading Rope

Series Information for Webinar #s 1, 2 & 3

Inside Dyslexia by Tanya Keto

Abstract

Described as "word blindness" in the late 1800s, early observations of struggling readers involved individuals who were unable to read despite clearly capable cognitive abilities, strengths in other domains, the absence of any obvious brain injury, and adequate instruction. "Dyslexia" - as we know it today - occurs in an estimated 5-15% of the population and refers to individuals who display fundamental and often profound difficulties with reading and spelling single words in isolation. This difficulty has a wide range of implications across academic settings and grades, and students with Dyslexia often experience repeated failure and frustration as early as grade 1. This can lead to a significant decrease in self-esteem and motivation, an increase in mental health concerns, and higher risks of school dropout and employment difficulties into adulthood. Educators play a critical role in the trajectory and outcomes of students with Dyslexia, and there is so much we can be doing to help these kids. Join Tanya in this 3 part deep-dive Inside Dyslexia.

Part 1: Introduction

The language associated with Dyslexia: "Learning Disability", "Reading LD", "Specific Learning Disorder in Reading"

Myths & Statistics

Developmental trajectory of Dyslexia

Part 2: Diagnosis and Academic Impact

Diagnosis: Current models and best practices

The Wait to Fail model: prevention VS intervention

The cognitive processes linked to Dyslexia

Impact across academics: Writing, spelling, vocabulary, writing, etc.

Part 3: How We Can Help

Early screening, prevention, and intervention

Evidence-based interventions and curriculum-based measurement

Assistive Technology and evidence-based resources, websites, etc. for supporting students

Presenter Bio

Tanya Keto (Registered Psychologist and Permanent Professionally Certified Teacher-AB) has a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta and a Masters of Education (Child and Applied School Psychology) from the University of Calgary. She is the Manager of Professional Development and Parent Education for Foothills Academy Society, a leader in Learning Disabilities (LD) since 1979. Tanya has over 20 years of experience working with individuals with LD and ADHD as a teacher, learning strategist, guidance counselor, and educational psychologist. She now specializes as a school psychologist, adult educator, university instructor, and advocate for individuals with LD and ADHD at school and in the workplace. With a unique ability to combine her real-world experiences with empirically driven practices, Tanya presents from a place of knowledge, empathy, and expertise, making evidence-based information accessible and practical to all participants.

tketo@foothillsacademy.org