



THE OG UPDATE

MARCH 2024

THE BENEFITS OF HOMESCHOOLING A DYSLEXIC CHILD

(submitted by Donna Rocco, OG Tutor)

As a parent of a child with dyslexia, it is gut wrenching to have to watch your child struggle as they attempt to keep up with all of the demands of school. The fight for services, accommodations, and/or modifications is frustrating, continually disappointing, and emotionally exhausting for parents. Even when we are lucky enough to "win" our battles at CSE, that usually doesn't occur until years later, after our children are functioning significantly below their peers. Since dyslexia often coexists with other learning disabilities, it is not uncommon for our children to receive numerous "pull outs" each day. While these "pull outs" are essential, they take our kids out of the enjoyable elective classes where many dyslexic children excel.

If this resonates with you and you are looking for a change, then you may want to consider homeschooling and the freedom that comes along with overseeing your child's education. At home, you are the one individualizing your child's educational needs. You can provide any accommodation needed. If your child requires extra time for an assignment/test, a graphic organizer, a break, a quiet space to work, directions repeated, a fidget or a snack to help with focus, the option to stand while learning or walk around the room freely when needed, then you can provide it.

While there are regulations that are mandated by NYS, you can cater to the interests of your child. Homeschooling does not have to be a replica of the traditional school setting, nor should it be. You can sit outside on a nice day for your lessons. You can learn fractions in the kitchen while you are baking, learn about percents, whole numbers, decimals, and money while you are out shopping, or you can have a science lesson about the ocean as you are on the beach. You can take your child on field trips to museums, libraries, plays and concerts. You can incorporate educational games into your lessons.

There are tons of options when it comes to curriculum, and you can find reviews which list the pros and cons of each curriculum so that you can make an educated decision on what will work best for your family. You can hire someone else to do the teaching (if children from other families are not present), but the parent is responsible for filing the necessary paperwork required by the NYS homeschool regulations, such as the IHIP (Individualized Home Instruction Plan) and the quarterly reports. You can enroll your child/children in co-ops or learning centers as long as at least half of the schooling is completed by a parent or the hired tutor.

If your child has an IEP, as a homeschooler, you can transfer your child's IEP to an IESP if you still want them to receive services such as OT, PT, speech or even resource room through the district. To guarantee services for the upcoming year, you will have to notify the district of your intent to homeschool by June 1st. You can find all the NYS homeschooling guidelines at www.nysed.gov under section 100.10, Home Instruction. Also, there are many Facebook groups that are dedicated to homeschooling dyslexic students, where many questions can be answered by veteran homeschoolers.

National Reading Month



Celebrate your love of reading with Literacy Nassau. After every tutoring session, tell us about what you read that day and pull a prize from the hat. Happy Reading!



Literacy Nassau's OG Summer Intensive Program

OPEN HOUSE

Learn all about our OG Summer Intensive program and tour our center.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12 6-7PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 23 10-11AM
TUESDAY, APRIL 2 7-8PM



Email Kate at kquijano@literacynassau.org to sign up



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(516) 867-3580

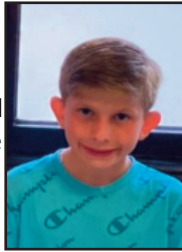


March 2	OG Cohort Training
March 28 & 29	Daytime Hours Only
March 30	Office Closed

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: VINNY

(submitted by Melissa, OG Tutor)

Vinny is a bright, 13-year-old student that I had the pleasure of meeting in September. Vinny is in 7th grade. He is a more advanced OG student, so most of our lessons are focused on studying the spelling rules and the structure of words. For the past few months, we have been diving into morphology, studying prefixes and suffixes. Vinny is a great student and has done very well learning these advanced linguistic concepts. I recently sat down with Vinny and asked him a few questions about himself and his thoughts on our OG sessions. Here is what he said:



Q: Our OG community would like to get to know you. Can you tell us a few fun facts about yourself?

I am 13 years old and live with my mom, dad, and sister. My favorite thing to do is play with my dog, Teddy. He is an Eskimo Poodle. I have been practicing Karate for a few years. I have a Brown-3 belt.

Q: What are your favorite and least favorite school subjects and why?

My least favorite subject is Social Studies because it is a lot to memorize. My favorite subject is math.

Q: What is your favorite holiday and why?

My favorite holiday is Christmas Eve because it's also my birthday! I usually get a lot of presents!

Q: Do you have a favorite vacation spot?

I like going to Florida because I like Disney. I have been there either three or four times. I also like the warm weather.

Q: That's perfect for my next question! Do you prefer winter or summer?

Definitely summer!

Q: What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be a veterinarian because I like animals (except cats!)

Q: What are your plans for the spring?

On the spring vacation I will go to South Carolina to visit my family.

Q: What facts or concepts do you remember most about our tutoring sessions so far?

It was helpful to study the doubling rule so I can get better at spelling words with suffixes. I also enjoy learning the meanings of prefixes.

Q: Is there anything that you would like to learn more about going forward?

I would like to keep learning morphology because it will help me spell longer words.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ANDERSON

(submitted by Rosemary, OG Trainee)

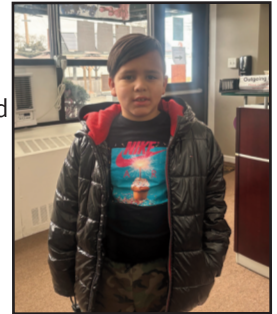
Anderson is a sweet and kind third grade boy. He comes to the center eager to work and determined to meet the challenges of the day. I am so proud of all he has accomplished in our sessions and look forward to seeing all the progress he will make in the future.

During our breaks, we play Spot it and Old Maid. I try to beat him but he wins most days. He loves picking a prize from his prize box and reminds me when I need to get back to the store for more supplies.

During his free time, Anderson spends time with his many pets: A dog named Barry, a bearded dragon named Speedy, and a parrot named Lamborghini. He loves playing with his brother and sister at home with their pets. He looks forward to playing Fortnite with his best friend Sal after our sessions.

When he grows up, he reports that he would like to be an ice cream man because there is a Carvel down the street from his house. This way, he can always eat ice cream and be close to his mom and dad.

It has been such a pleasure working with and getting to know Anderson. He is a smart, thoughtful, and capable boy with a bright future ahead. I'm happy to be a part of his reading journey.



Literacy Nassau's
OG Summer
Intensive Program

Very Limited Spots!

JULY 8 - AUGUST 1
MONDAY - THURSDAY
9:15-12:00
FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES 1-6

Building literacy skills
for students with
dyslexia, or other
language-based
learning disabilities.

\$1,950 (cash/check)
\$1,990 (credit)

**TO HOLD YOUR PLACE A \$200
DEPOSIT (CHECK/CASH)
IS REQUIRED WITH YOUR
APPLICATION.**

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