



THE OG UPDATE

OCTOBER 2024

DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

(submitted by Kate Quijano, Senior Program Director)

September was a busy month at Literacy Nassau! We were so pleased to welcome our new cohort of donation-based students and their tutor trainees to the center. They enjoyed doing some getting to know you activities and some assessment to prepare for the individualized instruction they will receive this year. We were also happy to see many of our students returning from last year to our fee-based programs and our school district contract work.

As we move into October, we are reminded of the importance of the work we do every day here at Literacy Nassau in serving students with dyslexia and other language based learning disabilities. October is Dyslexia Awareness Month. The word dyslexia comes from Greek and means "difficulty with words." Some symptoms of dyslexia are as follows:

- Difficulty understanding that words are made up of sounds represented by letters
- Difficulty recognizing letter forms, matching letters to sounds (sound/symbols)
- Difficulty blending sounds within words
- Letter and/or word reversals
- Difficulty keeping one's place when tracking and not skipping over words
- Many spelling mistakes
- Avoidance of reading
- Difficulty copying from the board
- Ignoring punctuation when reading aloud
- Reading a word correctly on one page and incorrectly on the next
- Misreading, omitting, or adding small function words (as, an, a, from, the)

You can get more information about dyslexia as well as resources for students and parents by visiting their website:

<https://dyslexiaida.org/definition-of-dyslexia/#>



Orton-Gillingham is known as the gold standard in working with students with dyslexia. It uses a structured, multisensory approach and meets each child exactly where they are. All of our tutors have received their certification (or are training to receive certification) from the Orton-Gillingham Academy (OGA). For more information on OG, please visit: <https://www.ortonacademy.org>

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Mark Your Calendars!



**Thursday,
October 3rd and
Friday,
October 4th:
Daytime Tutoring
Hours Only; No
Evening Hours**

**Monday,
October 14:
Literacy Nassau
will be closed.
Enjoy the long
weekend!**

SPIN THE WHEEL



As we celebrate Dyslexia Awareness this month, we have some prizes for our students!

After each tutoring session, OG students can spin the wheel to determine what prize they will receive. A spin after every lesson means that students will get up to three prizes a week depending on how many sessions they have each week. That's a lot of celebrating! The wheel will only be available during the month of October. So if you have to complete any make-up sessions, be sure to schedule them before the month ends. But don't worry, we have more fun planned for November.



DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH (CONTINUED)

Literacy Nassau tutors do not use a packaged program, workbooks, or "readers." They actually take the time to create text specifically for their students based on the skills they have taught. This also gives them the opportunity to write stories related to each child's interests. This is a unique aspect of OG that ensures students have text that is accessible and relatable to them. I always love hearing everyone's unique stories that they have created for their students.

A question I always get asked is, "What should my child read at home?" While I can't ask your tutor to create additional text for them to read at home, I can recommend a few resources where you can find decodable texts (books that are decodable for them based on the skills they have already learned and which do not include advanced skills that they have not been taught yet nor concepts that would encourage guessing.) You can ask your tutor what syllable types/skills have been introduced to help you know which levels/series of each of these resources would be best for them. You can check out the following sites:

- SimpleWord Books by C. Knebel (<https://simplewordsbooks.com>)
- The Dog on a Log series (<https://dogonalogbooks.com>)
- High Noon Books-Sound Out Chapter Books (<https://www.highnoonbooks.com>)



Nessy also offers web-based resources, videos, and games that can add some fun while reinforcing the methodology that students are learning through their Orton-Gillingham tutoring. Please visit www.nessy.com or search for Nessy videos on YouTube.

The dyslexia symbol empowers the dyslexic community



This jewelry line was designed to create a way for the dyslexia symbol to show support and start conversations and to raise funding for dyslexia organizations. Available in sterling, 14k over sterling, and solid 14k, styles come in an organza gift bag with an eye-catching information card that explains the significance of the dyslexia symbol.

www.pqbd.org

Please type in our organization **LITERACY NASSAU** when ordering. They will donate 10% of your purchase to us.



Our one-on-one OG tutoring is individualized to meet each student's needs and interests.



RESOURCE CORNER

The Literacy Nest provides a wonderful interactive presentation of books and videos about dyslexia offering information on facts you may not know.

www.theliteracynest.com



THE LITERACY NEST
Where fledgling readers grow.