

[Word Formulations]

[Instructions]

[American Dyslexia Association]



Word Formulations - Instructions

The following symptom training with so-called "Word Formulations" can be very effective. Experience shows that dyslexic people remember those letters and words especially well, which they can grasp or work with. These are stored permanently in the long time memory if they can be perceived as three-dimensional.

The symptom training - working on the mistakes - should be based on this principle. Words, which the child finds particularly difficult to retain, should be created with plain modeling clay, dough, sand or other materials. Furthermore, these words should be exercised intensively according to the following instructions:

WORD IMAGE:

First the word image is created. The child should be urged to memorize the exact image of the word. Details of it should be discussed with the child, e.g., how many letters the word contains. Start by building the word letter by letter and then removing the letters again, take the word apart and put it back together. There should be no set limits here to playful imagination.

WORD SOUND:

The child should learn the sound of each word precisely, both in his voice and that of the trainer. Pronunciation or spelling is a process by which the child learns that each word consists of letters. The dyslexic person does not always have this understanding.

WORD MEANING:

The meaning of some words is not always familiar to the dyslexic person. If a word does not seem to have meaning, it is very hard to retain. For some inexplicable reason, many so-called "easy" words like *give, many, fell, her, even, just*, and so on are affected. Therefore, these words must be given a clear and comprehensible meaning during the word exercises. This occurs most easily if one uses these words in sentence constructions for the child as well as generating a picture. Additionally, a dictionary can be used to help with the word meaning.

The word formulation worksheets provide ideas for word exercises of common words and are therefore very helpful.