



Iowa's Area
Education
Agencies

To: Iowa Parents of Children with Dyslexia/Characteristics of Dyslexia

Iowa Area Education Agencies partner with your local school district to make sure all students learn reading and other literacy skills. Iowa's AEAs support literacy because reading skills lead directly to success in other subjects such as social studies, math, and science. Literacy was at the center of a law passed in 2012 and Iowa's education system is focused to make sure our students are skilled readers. In fact, the AEA system, the Iowa Department of Education, and the Iowa legislature are united in the goal that ***every Iowa child will be proficient in reading by the end of third grade.***

Iowa's educational system is designed to intervene early for all learners who are not on track to be successful readers. With the passing of the Early Literacy Implementation rules, all students in grades K-3 will receive a screening for their reading skills three times a year.

- For those students who receive early intervention and continue to struggle, other resources will be provided.
 - Individual students will receive support at the level that matches their needs.
 - Students with reading disabilities such as dyslexia can more quickly be **identified** as at-risk readers and be **provided** with intensive reading services earlier in their educational experience.
- Iowa AEAs and local school districts are working with The Iowa Reading Research Center to provide research-based approaches and resources so that school staff have the skills and tools to make sure all students have success, including struggling readers.
 - The Iowa Reading Research Center provides a [Parent Support Checklist](#) that outlines the steps you can take if you have concerns regarding your child's reading.
- As students move beyond 3rd grade, those who continue to struggle with reading will receive support to assist with increasing basic reading skills and comprehension.

There are many families that include children who are struggling readers and often times parents feel helpless. They want to support their children but may not be sure of how to best go about it. Iowa AEAs, along with local school districts, are partnering with families to help ***all*** children learn to read. Statewide resources around dyslexia are posted on each AEAs website to provide further information and contacts for assistance.