Seeing the signs of a Learning Disability

The symptoms of learning disabilities are a diverse set of characteristics, which affect development and achievement. Some of these symptoms can be found in all children at some time during their development. However, a person with learning disabilities has a cluster of these symptoms that do not disappear as s/he grows older.

**Pre-School**

Have you noticed that your child has
- difficulty finding the right word?
- difficulty making rhymes?
- trouble learning numbers, alphabet, days of the week, colors and shapes?
- trouble concentrating?
- trouble interacting with peers?
- difficulty following directions or learning routines?
- difficulty controlling pencil, crayons, scissors?

**Grades K-4**

Does your child
- have trouble learning the connection between letters and sounds?
- confuse basic words? (run, eat, want)
- make consistent reading and spelling errors including letter reversals (b/d, inversions (m/w), transpositions?
- experience difficulty learning basic math concepts?

**Grades 5-8**

Is your child having difficulty
- with reading comprehension or math skills?
- with letter sequences? (soiled for solid, left for felt)?
- with prefixes, suffixes, root words or other spelling strategies?
- organizing his/her bedroom, notebook, papers, and desk?
- keeping up with papers or assignments?
- with handwriting?
- with time management?
- understanding oral discussions and expressing thoughts aloud?

**High School and Adults**

Is your child having difficulty
- spelling the same word differently in a single document?
- taking on reading or writing tasks?
- with open-ended questions on tests?
- with memory skills?
- adapting skills from one setting to another?
- with a slow work pace?
- grasping abstract concepts?
- focusing on details?
- misreading information?