Instructional Support for Students with Dyslexia in Lexia Core5 Reading



Research shows that more explicit instructional approaches have the strongest impact on the skill growth of children at risk for reading difficulty such as dyslexia. Lexia® Core5® Reading is a highly structured and sequential blended-learning approach to reading instruction that is designed to create individualized learning paths for students of all ability levels, including students with dyslexia.

Definition of Dyslexia

The following definition was adopted in 2002 by the International Dyslexia Association and is used by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development:

Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

Product Overview

Core5 provides all students a systematic and structured approach to the six areas of reading: phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, structural analysis, automaticity/fluency, and comprehension. The introduction of skills is done in a systematic sequence that moves from simple to complex and cycles back to review and integrate material previously introduced. This intensive review and practice is a critical characteristic of effective intervention for students with dyslexia.





Product Highlights

Core5 provides a personalized learning path for each student based on their strengths and weaknesses and supports learners through continual assessment. Here is how it breaks out through the six areas of reading:

Phonological and Phonemic Awareness Support

- Students learn to recognize rhyming words, blend syllables in spoken words, and segment words into parts.
- Once phonological awareness has been established, students develop phonemic awareness by analyzing and synthesizing individual sounds in words.

Phonics Support

- Core5 helps students build sound-symbol knowledge while also developing their understanding of print patterns and conventions.
- With the phonics strand, students gain an understanding of syllable types, rules for syllable division, and spelling conventions—all of which are critical for students with dyslexia.

Comprehension Support

- Early comprehension activities build a student's language comprehension skills and print awareness through listening activities and modeled readings, thereby teaching developing readers about the structure of text and providing a framework for later reading comprehension.
- As soon as word-reading skills emerge, students associate decodable words, phrases, and sentences with pictures that reinforce comprehension as they build their decoding skills. As students move through the program, they are required to apply skills to independently read and comprehend multi-paragraph texts that represent a wide selection of genres and present a range of thought-provoking topics.

Structural Analysis Support

- Students build awareness of the morphological structure of words, such as prefixes, roots, and suffixes. This helps all students, including students with dyslexia, develop the necessary skills to read, spell, and understand multisyllabic words often found in literature, math, history, and science.
- Students use word-learning strategies in conjunction with their knowledge of word parts to determine the meaning of academic vocabulary at the word, sentence, and passage level.

Vocabulary Support

- The vocabulary strand in Core5 is structured to build semantic knowledge by teaching wordlearning strategies, promoting deep knowledge of abstract and academic vocabulary words, and allowing students to develop insights into word relationships.
- Activities require students to think critically about words and the concepts they represent while also applying strategies to build vocabulary breadth and depth.

Automaticity and Fluency Support

- To promote automaticity, Core5 includes warmup activities and review units designed to consolidate previously learned skills.
 This systematic and cumulative review of concepts is particularly important for students with dyslexia.
- Fluency instruction is built systematically by work that focuses on important aspects of sentence structure, as well as activities that involve the analysis of intonation, emphasis, phrasing, rhythm, and rhyme scheme.



Explicit Presentation of Concepts

The Core5 instructional model integrates explicit online activities with multisensory teacher-led lessons to enhance instruction. While a student works on an activity, the program provides a scaffolding system for support and instruction as necessary. If a student struggles in a unit, automatic branching moves them to Guided Practice with fewer stimuli and more structure. If the student continues to struggle, they move to Direct Instruction, which explicitly teaches the targeted skill to the student. Teachers have access to online reports that provide continuous assessment data, allowing educators to, for example, identify students who are struggling with a particular skill.

The Importance of Multisensory Learning

As students work through online activities in Core5, auditory information is supported through engaging visual demonstrations and examples. Offline materials provide opportunities for students to reinforce foundational reading skills using multisensory manipulative materials, as well as to interact with content in a hands-on and collaborative way. The multisensory approach allows students with dyslexia to learn through multiple modalities.

Why Choose Lexia for Students With Dyslexia?

Lexia Learning was founded in 1984 by Bob Lemire to provide reading intervention for students with language-based learning difficulties like dyslexia. While other reading programs may be described as research-based, Lexia programs are also research-proven to improve learning outcomes and are evaluated using rigorous scientific methods, as seen in gold-standard efficacy studies. Lexia now helps 3.8 million students of all abilities master critical reading and language skills so they can become proficient readers and confident learners across the curriculum.



Phonological awareness activities support rhyming and syllable awareness.



Learning beginning and ending sounds builds phonemic awareness.



Phonics activities develop knowledge of print and syllable patterns.



Identifying prefixes supports decoding and builds academic vocabulary.

About Lexia Learning

Lexia Learning, a Cambium Learning® Group company, empowers educators through adaptive assessment and personalized instruction. For more than 30 years, the company has been on the leading edge of research and product development as it relates to student reading skills. With a robust offering that includes solutions for differentiated instruction, personalized learning, and assessment, Lexia Learning provides educators with the tools to intensify and accelerate literacy skills development for students of all abilities.

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