Overview: Dyspraxia

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Dyspraxia is a disorder affecting the development of motor skills. This often, but not always, co-exists with other learning disabilities. Individuals with dyspraxia may struggle with single-step and multi-step tasks, as well as coordinating speech muscles and establishing spatial relationships.

**Noticeable Behaviors:**

- Poor balance
- Poor hand-eye coordination
- Often bumps into things, stumbles, falls
- Difficulty with manipulative skills
- Unclear speech and/or repetition
- Difficulty with visual tracking
- Struggles with organizing/sequencing
- Easily distracted
- Struggles to understand non-verbal communication
- Poor sense of direction

**Accommodation Strategies:**

- Ask for clear, precise directions
- Finish one task before starting another
- Break projects into manageable tasks
- Use visual aids (charts/graphs/diagrams)
- Use calendars, post-it notes, lists, color-coordinating to keep organized
- Try to keep a daily routine
- Prioritize tasks
- Ask to get deadlines/due dates far in advance
- Take regular breaks
- Use tape recorders
- Implement grammar/spell check
- Speech recognition software
Helpful Resources:

• The Dyspraxia Foundation
• The Dyspraxia Support Group of N.Z.