

## **TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR HELPING STUDENTS WITH DYSCALCULIA**

**Trainer: Dr. Anupma Sethi, USA**

Dr. Anupma Sethi is a distinguished educator and the esteemed founder of Empowerkidz, a pioneering multi-disciplinary learning program designed to unlock the potential of children and optimize their learning experiences. With a Doctorate in Learning Disabilities from the prestigious University of Delhi, she possesses a solid academic foundation in the field.

At present, Dr. Sethi holds a position as the Director of Training and Skills Development at the Africa Dyslexia Organisation, where she spearheads efforts to enhance educational opportunities for individuals with dyslexia. Her invaluable contributions to the organization encompass the development and implementation of effective strategies to address dyslexia-related challenges across Africa.

Dr. Sethi's extensive expertise spans various domains within education and cognitive development. As a certified SOI Systems Practitioner under SOI Systems Oregon, USA, she possesses comprehensive skills in evaluating and enhancing cognitive abilities. Additionally, she holds a valuable Educational Therapy Certification from the University of Santa Cruz, further underscoring her commitment to utilizing evidence-based approaches to support students with learning difficulties.

With over two decades of experience, Dr. Sethi has made a profound impact as an SOI Systems Cognitive Skills Trainer and an Orton-Gillingham reading therapist. She is also a licensed coach for The Listening Program from Advanced Brain Technologies, a renowned program that fosters auditory processing and listening skills. Moreover, her certification in the Braingym 101 program showcases her proficiency in facilitating mind-body coordination, thereby optimizing the learning potential of her students.

Dr. Sethi's unwavering dedication lies in working with children facing learning disabilities and ADHD. Throughout her illustrious career, she has continuously embraced research-based advancements in education and the science of teaching. Central to her educational philosophy is the belief that every individual possesses inherent capabilities and can flourish given the opportunity to learn in a manner aligned with their unique strengths. Dr. Sethi advocates for a transformative paradigm in education that embraces inclusivity, nurturing the belief that all individuals hold value and can attain meaningful learning experiences.

With her vast knowledge, profound experience, and unwavering commitment, Dr. Anupma Sethi stands as a true beacon of inspiration in the field of education, working tirelessly to empower children, revolutionize teaching methodologies, and foster comprehensive learning environments for all.

## Training Guide

**Dyscalculia Defined:** Dyscalculia is a learning disability in math. People with have trouble with math at many levels. They often struggle with key concepts like bigger vs. smaller. And they can have a hard time doing basic math problems and more abstract math.

Watch this 4-minute video on dyscalculia: <https://youtu.be/IezO567SKNM>

***Below is training place for 2 days training on math's strategies for teaching with low performance in math.***

### Day 1: 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023

- Introduction:
  - Specific Learning Difficulties in Math (Dyscalculia).
  - Characteristics of Children with Learning Differences in Math.
  - How does math learning differences (Dyscalculia) manifest itself in the classrooms?
  - Connection between Dyslexia and Dyscalculia. What is the connection between language-based challenges and Math? How does reading affect Math?
  - How to identify/screen children with learning difficulties in Math.
- How do children learn Math? Stages of learning Math
  - Concrete Representational Abstract Model; Theoretical Background.
- What are the Math Readiness Concepts?
- Theoretical outline and Frame work to be discussed on Day 1.

### Day 2: 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Teaching Strategies for Math to be discussed on Day 2 in the following areas:

- Math Readiness Skills/Pre Math-Skills:
  - Classification/Sorting/Grouping
  - Ordering & Seriation
  - Sequencing/Sequential Thinking
  - One To One Correspondence
  - Problem Solving Skills & Critical Thinking Skills.
  - Spatial Orientation and Temporal Skills.

- Processing Skills (Visual & Auditory Processing)
- Numeracy:
  - Counting,
  - Recognizing Number Symbols,
  - Greater than/less Than,
  - Number Bonds,
  - Place Value,
  - Number Sequencing,
  - Ascending/Descending Orders
- Place Value
- Math Operations
  - Addition
  - Subtraction
  - Multiplication
  - Division
- Fractions
- Geometry
- Time
- Problem Solving & Critical Thinking.
- **Math Resources:**
  - Online & digital tools like manipulatives.
  - Games & activities
  - How to make math fun and engaging.

**Day 3: 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

## **TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR HELPING STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA** Training Guide

**Dyslexia Defined:** Dyslexia is a learning disorder that involves difficulty reading due to problems identifying speech sounds and learning how they relate to letters and words (decoding). Also called a reading disability, dyslexia is a result of individual differences in areas of the brain that process language.

Watch this 4- minute video on Dyslexia: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11r7CFIK2sc>

**Below is training place for 1 day training on strategies for teaching with low performance in English.**

### **Part 1: Introduction- Dyslexia and Related Learning Disabilities**

#### **Trainer Alex Amankwah**

Alex Amankwah is a highly skilled professional specializing in Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP). With a deep passion for education and a focus on supporting learners with specific learning difficulties, Alex currently serves as the Unit Head of Learning Disabilities at the Ghana Education Service Headquarters - Special Education Division. In this pivotal role, Alex plays a crucial part in developing and implementing strategies to assist students with learning disabilities.

Additionally, Alex holds the esteemed position of Director at the Top Performers Institute, an organization dedicated to professional and self-development training programs for both students and teachers. Through this role, Alex has made a significant impact by coaching over 10,000 teachers from both public and private institutions on effective techniques to manage and support learners with specific learning difficulties.

Recognized for his expertise in the field, Alex has authored two books focused on learning disabilities, targeting teachers and parents. These publications serve as valuable resources, providing insights, strategies, and support for those working with learners facing learning challenges.

With his extensive experience, unwavering dedication, and commitment to improving educational outcomes for individuals with specific learning difficulties, Alex Amankwah continues to be a driving force in the field of education and learning support.

#### **Foundational Principles for Teaching learners with Specific Learning Difficulties in mainstream schools.**

Review of the key components of the New Standard-Based Curriculum & Common Core Program

#### **The 8 Foundational principles that make lesson delivery engaging and effective for all categories of learners (esp. for those with learning disabilities)**

- Neuronal connections and the impact on learning
- Interest and motive for learning
- Hemispheric structure and their different processing functions
- Procedural learning versus whole picture learning
- Multiple Intelligences (accommodating the different learning styles)
- Multisensory Approaches (combining the 4 modalities)
- The learning pyramid - participatory activities to enhance learning
- Teaching for learning versus teaching AND learning

## Part 2: Teaching Strategies

### Trainer: Ida Allotey-Brown

Ida Allotey-Brown is a highly experienced educator with a remarkable track record of over 15 years in teaching children and adults, both with and without special educational needs (SEN). With her proficiency as a sign language interpreter and expertise in facilitating English as a Second Language (ESL) learning, Ida has effectively supported individuals from diverse backgrounds and nationalities.

Beyond her teaching responsibilities, Ida has played a pivotal role in shaping educational institutions. She has actively contributed to the drafting and implementation of institutional policies, ensuring inclusive practices and equal opportunities for all learners. Additionally, Ida has demonstrated her commitment to accessibility by coordinating the provision of access arrangements during examinations, ensuring that students receive the necessary accommodations.

Ida's dedication extends beyond students, as she provides comprehensive training and support to both students and staff. Through her efforts, she enhances the education of students with and without challenges, fostering an environment that promotes inclusivity and maximizes learning outcomes.

With her extensive experience and multifaceted skill set, Ida Allotey-Brown has made a significant impact in the field of education. Her unwavering commitment to providing quality education and creating inclusive learning environments has positively influenced the lives of countless students and educators alike.

- Practical session/ activity
- Understanding Dyslexia (Discussion, sharing of experiences and thoughts)

### Impact of Dyslexia on students

Sound acquisition

Memory

Processing

- Teaching and Learning strategies
  - Reading models
  - Multisensory Approaches (creation of resources)
  - Access arrangement or accommodations
  - Parental involvement