Dyscalculia Checklist

by Phillips & Phillips

Symptoms established by research:

• Poor understanding of the signs +, -, ÷ and x, or may confuse these mathematical symbols.

• Difficulty with addition, subtraction, multiplication and division or may find it difficult to understand the words "plus," "add," "add-together."

• Difficulty with times tables.

• Poor mental arithmetic skills.

• May have trouble even with a calculator due to difficulties in the process of feeding in variables.

• May reverse or transpose numbers for example 63 for 36, or 785 for 875.

• Difficulty with conceptualising time and judging the passing of time.

• Difficulty with everyday tasks like checking change.

• Difficulty keeping score during games.

• Inability to comprehend financial planning or budgeting, sometimes even at a basic level, for example, estimating the cost of the items in a shopping basket.

• Inability to grasp and remember mathematical concepts, rules, formulae, and sequences.

• May have a poor sense of direction (i.e., north, south, east, and west), potentially even with a compass.

• May have difficulty mentally estimating the measurement of an object or distance (e.g., whether something is 10 or 20 feet away).

• Extreme cases may lead to a phobia of mathematics and mathematical devices.

Other symptoms

The following are likely to be further symptoms of dyscalculia:

1. Difficulty imagining a mental number line.
2. Difficulty using finger counting (slow, inaccurate, unable to immediately recognise finger configurations).
3. Difficulty with number bonds (e.g. recognising that 10 is made up of 6 and 4).
4. Difficulty understanding place value.
5. Trouble learning and understanding reasoning methods and multi-step calculation procedures.