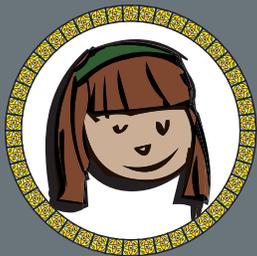
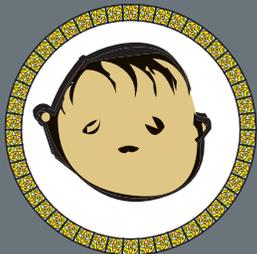


Myths and Facts About LDs



Myth: Learning disabilities are all the same and/or easily understood.

Fact: Learning disabilities are complicated. The extent of their impact and the areas of learning they affect vary greatly from person to person, combine in any variety of ways, and vary depending on context. Helping is not as complicated: people with LDs need to determine which modes of learning work well for them, and use these strengths to compensate for the areas affected by their LD.



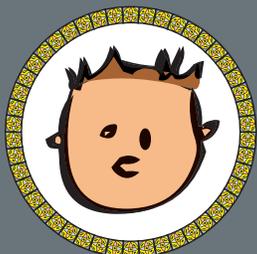
Myth: Students with LDs cannot learn.

Fact: Students with LDs can be successful learners by compensating for their weaknesses using their strengths, by using alternative, individualized teaching and learning materials and methods, and by choosing tasks that suit their style.



Myth: More boys than girls have learning disabilities.

Fact: Although boys are four times more likely to be identified as LDs by schools than girls, research studies suggest that many girls who are not identified also have the most common form of learning problem - difficulty with reading. Many girls' learning difficulties are neither identified nor treated - possibly because boys who are struggling are, in general, more disruptive in classes.



Myth: Learning disabilities are only a school issue.

Fact: LDs affect one or more modes of learning, anywhere that mode is used. LDs tend to be noticed most often when they impact on school-learning, but exist in all areas of life - work, family, relationships, etc.



Myth: Providing academic adjustments such as accommodations and individualized teaching gives students with LDs an unfair advantage over other students.

Fact: Academic adjustments are determined based on deficits resulting from a student's LDs. Adjustments ensure equal and fair participation in a learning environment and help ensure actual learning is taking place and recognized. Students with LDs are required to meet the same academic standards as their peers.



For more information about learning disabilities, please visit www.LDAO.ca

