

Dyslexia from a mother's perspective

By Rafza Nehaul

One of our aims in life is to gain knowledge and use it wisely. Institutional education is but one way to do this.

30 years ago as a parent of a dyslexic there was minimal help but I sought anything relevant. The one main goal that I plugged was confidence for BOTH of us. If I, the mother, could not exude this how could I reinforce this concept to my daughter.

I come out of very academic education, both the way I was taught and also the way I was expected to impart knowledge. I was very out of my league dealing with dyslexia. Basically I had to relearn and this I did in all forms and ways.

In the days working as an estate agent I sold a home to an university academic. He would call me at least 6 times a day with the most basic questions. His brain functioned in a way totally different to the way my daughter's did. So I learnt.

At the age of 7 my daughter had a reading age of 5 but she could play poker, taught to her by my brother and then she tried to teach her school mates during rainy day break, understandably not accepted by the school. I learnt again. Incidentally, She is very hard to beat at Rummy Q.

So another important fact, dyslexics think differently, so access differently, what is wrong with that.

When 30 children in a class are given the same information in the same time period and asked to absorb at the same rate, this picture is unreal. This is not only the concern of a dyslexic but every student.

As I saw it my daughter lacked nothing but was different in her accessing. So I learnt again.

During these years I have learnt more than in the previous years of my life, with her help. I began to think differently, in a way confidence became boldness since I became demanding on her part. Again I learnt, there are many avenues to the same goal.

Presently my daughter has boldly created an app (Dyslexia Tool Kit) from her perspective, as a dyslexic, this covers the emotional side that very few take into account and the trick and tools to handle the institutional academic system.

She has just finished building 2 holiday homes as well, while script writing. These are vastly different concepts but she is able to do this. Again I learnt how advanced she was of me.

I as a mother of a dyslexic I cannot stress the importance of such a child

gaining confidence, that allows he or she to fly.

Finally, none of this came easily but I put in my best, sincere effort, there was no room for keeping up with the Jones, embarrassment, or negativity in any form, so parents out there investigate yourself and then put your best foot forward, what is normality?

Someone who is conversationally engaging and is life savvy is ahead of the game.

Website: www.dyslexiatoolkit

App Store: Dyslexia Tool Kit - <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/dyslexia-tool-kit/id893788731?mt=8>

Ebook: http://www.amazon.com/Dyslexia-Tool-Kit-Zak-Nehaul-ebook/dp/B00P2YO0PK/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1415119792&sr=8-3&keywords=dyslexia+tool+kit