# **Dyslexia Fact Sheet**

#### Dyslexia is...

- ✓ A brain-based issue that makes it hard to learn to read accurately and fluently.
- ✓ A lifelong condition. Kids don't outgrow dyslexia, but with the right support, key skills can improve.
- ✓ A common learning issue. Many successful people have it, and researchers have been studying it for over a century.

### Dyslexia is not...

- A problem of intelligence. Kids with dyslexia are just as smart as their peers.
- A problem of vision. The core issue involves understanding how the *sounds* in words are represented by letters.
- A problem of laziness. Kids with dyslexia are already trying hard. They need more help to make progress.

Writing

**Spelling** 

Learning a foreign language

Reading smoothly

Recognizing common words (sight words)

Kids with dyslexia may have trouble with...

Solving word problems in math

**Rhyming** 

(sounding out) written words

**Decoding** 

Understanding what they read

## Ways to help kids with dyslexia



Multisensory structured literacy instruction engages kids through sight, hearing, movement and touch.



Accommodations help kids learn and show what they know, like doing an oral report instead of a written assignment.



Assistive technology tools, like audiobooks and text-to-speech apps, can help level the playing field for struggling readers.

#### **Success stories**



Salma Hayek, Oscar-nominated actress



Daymond John, Shark Tank star and CEO of FUBU



Carol Greider, Nobel Prize-winning scientist

