

Playing on the Dyslexic Strengths

Understanding Dyslexic Strengths

Dyslexic learners often think in images, connections, and patterns rather than words. These differences, when harnessed, can become superpowers in learning. Homeschooling provides the freedom to design lessons around these strengths instead of forcing traditional methods.

The MIND Strengths Framework (Eide & Eide)

M – Material Reasoning: Thinking in 3D and mentally manipulating ideas or physical spaces. These students excel at building, creating models, and visualizing concepts.

I – Interconnected Reasoning: Seeing relationships between ideas across different subjects. They naturally make big-picture connections.

N – Narrative Reasoning: Understanding and remembering information through stories. They are natural storytellers and creative communicators.

D – Dynamic Reasoning: Thinking in motion — predicting outcomes, visualizing processes, and seeing how things change over time.

How to Play on These Strengths in Homeschooling

1. Teach Through Storytelling

Use narrative to teach history, science, and even math. Have your child retell what they've learned as a story or comic strip.

2. Integrate Hands-On, Visual Tools

Use models, manipulatives, and drawing activities. Let them build or visualize lessons using 3D resources like LEGO, clay, or diagrams.

3. Encourage Big-Picture Thinking

Use mind maps, timelines, and cause-effect diagrams. Ask questions like 'How does this connect to what we learned yesterday?'

4. Focus on Strength-Based Output

Allow oral reports, videos, and creative projects instead of written essays. Strengths in creativity and communication shine in these forms.

5. Leverage Technology

Use audiobooks, text-to-speech, and visual note-taking tools like Notion or Canva to help them process

information efficiently.

Encouraging Growth Mindset

Help your child see their unique learning profile as a gift. Encourage reflection on what helps them learn best. Celebrate problem-solving and creativity, not just correctness.

Faith-Based Perspective

Each child's learning style is part of their God-given design. Dyslexic learners often reflect divine creativity, innovation, and empathy. Nurture these traits as strengths to serve others and glorify God through their unique gifts.