



LET'S TALK ABOUT

HELP YOUR CHILD'S MEMORY

CONTENTS

Introduction	04
Chapter I How can I help my child at home with letter reversals?	05
Chapter II Preventing & resolving.	07
Chapter III Effective methods to address challenging letter reversal problems	08

10

INTRODUCTION

Individuals with dyslexia tend to think visually and may make errors in selecting the correct orientation of a letter or number when doing so quickly. It may be challenging for younger children with dyslexia to realize that letters with similar shapes can represent different sounds.

Dyslexic people have more difficulty with letter reversals when writing than they do when reading. Contextual hints can provide additional information while reading, however, reversals can still occur if words are read in isolation.

Is letter reversal a sign of dyslexia?

Up to the age of eight, it is normal for children to reverse letters or numbers. If this continues after the age of eight and is accompanied by a delay in reading abilities, it may be a symptom of dyslexia. This chance is raised if there is a family history of dyslexia, which is common. A neuropsychologist's opinion is recommended for obtaining a formal diagnosis.

CHAPTER I

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME WITH LETTER REVERSALS?

To help your child overcome letter and number reversals, it is recommended to work on one letter or number at a time. For example, if your child is having difficulty with reversing b and d, start with b and only introduce d once your child has made significant progress with b.

Similarly, focus on one number at a time before moving on to the next. To make the learning process more engaging, use a multisensory approach where your child can trace the letter in sand or practice "skywriting" while saying the sound of the letter out loud. You can also offer a strategy for remembering how to write the letter, such as "the bat comes before the ball" for the letter b.

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CHAPTER II


PREVENTING & RESOLVING

As parents and teachers, we have two main responsibilities in dealing with letter reversals.

1- Firstly, we should try to prevent any confusion from arising.

This can be achieved by teaching children the correct formation of letters from the beginning of their education.



When writing  with the stick followed by the circle. However, when writing the letter 'd', we should begin with the circle followed by the stick.

We should also encourage children to use lined paper, which will help them to understand the position of the circle in relation to the stick. Additionally, we need to make sure that children do not lift their pencils from the paper when writing any of the easily-confused letters. Secondly, where confusion already exists, we should work to resolve it.

In this article, we will discuss four effective methods to address challenging letter reversal problems:

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Method 1: Use tactile surfaces

Method 2: Use air writing

Method 3: Use analogies

Method 4: Draw attention to mouth shape

You might need to use all four methods if a child continues to struggle with letter reversals, but in some cases, one of these methods may suffice.

CHAPTER III

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Method 2: Use air writing

Method 3: Mouth Formation Trick

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Method 1: Tactile Surfaces

To help your child in letter reversals, offer your kid with a variety of textured surfaces to engage with. Flannel fabric, corrugated cardboard, very fine sandpaper, fuzzy fabric, and leather are all examples of textured surfaces. Then cut a huge lowercase letter out of that chosen tactile surface.



Encourage your child to trace the letter with the pointer finger of their dominant hand, making sure they start and stop in the correct position. Practice until they can confidently write the letter without making any mistakes.

Choose a different textured surface to work with once they are ready to move on to the next letter.

Method 2: Air Writing

Step 1: Print your child's initial name on a large index card or piece of paper, beginning with an uppercase letter and ending with a lowercase letter.

Step 2: Touch the first letter of your child's name and ask him to repeat or shout the letter's name.

Step 3: Ask your child to "write" a letter in the air with their finger while giving them directions on how to form the letter correctly. For example, if you're working on the letter 'b', you could say something like, 'Start at the top and draw a straight line down to the bottom, then form a circle starting at the top and moving around to the left'. Encourage your kid to use their finger to follow along, speaking the directions out loud as they go, until they can make the letter correctly on their own. This practice can be repeated as needed with other letters.



Method 3: Mouth Formation Trick

Letters that are often confused or reversed by young kids are 'b' and 'd' and 'm' and 'w'. One way to help students understand the difference is the mouth formation trick.

In this strategy, students are taught that when they make the /b/ sound, the crease between the upper and lower lip is straight, just like the line that starts the letter 'b' when writing it. When making a /d/ sound, the tongue is curled just like the curl that starts the letter 'd' when writing it.

You can also use this strategy for the letters m and w. When you make the /m/ sound, your lips are closed just like the top of the letter m. When you make the /w/ sound, your mouth is open just like the top of the letter w.

