

Understanding Causes of Writing Problems

- Drs. Brock and Fernette Eide. *The Mislabeled Child*. New York: Hyperion, 2006.
- [Understood.org](#): search “dysgraphia causes.” Several good articles and a chart contrasting dysgraphia and dyspraxia.
- William Van Cleave’s website, <http://www.wvced.com/resources>
- Larry Silver, M.D. *The Misunderstood Child*. New York: Three Rivers, 2006.
- www.idonline.org/indepth/writing

Handwriting Curricula

- Mary D. Benbow, MS, OTR/L. *Loops and Other Groups: A Kinesthetic Writing System*. San Antonio: Therapy Skill Builders (Pearson), 1999.
- Jan Olsen. *Handwriting Without Tears* series. Cabin John, Maryland: Handwriting Without Tears. 2008. HWT also provides training workshops in teaching handwriting; see www.hwtears.com
- Diana Hanbury King and Karen K. Leopold’s *Learning Print* and *Learning Cursive*. www.wvced.com/ See also Diana Hanbury King’s other books below, under “Writing programs.”
- iPad apps, such as *Letter School* and *I Write Words*, provide excellent practice, forcing writers to form letters correctly, and making it fun, too. When an occupational or speech therapist prescribes an iPad, some insurance will cover it.

Spelling, Vocabulary, Grammar and Mechanics

- [SpellingCity.com](http://www.spellingcity.com) You enter your spelling words, and the site creates sentences, games, and drills using them to master spelling and vocabulary. Free!
- Beverly Adams-Gordon. *Spelling Power*. Lynnwood, Washington: Castle-Moyle Books. 2006. www.castlemoyle.com One book covers all grades. Efficient, multisensory.
- [AllAboutSpelling.com](http://www.allaboutspelling.com) Orton-Gillingham based, so it is multisensory and teaches phonemic awareness.
- Janet Allen. *Words, Words, Words: Teaching Vocabulary in Grades 4-12*. Portland, Maine: Stenhouse, 1999. www.stenhouse.com Teach meaning in context for best results.
- Sam Burchers, Max Burchers, and Bryan Burchers. *Vocabulary Cartoons: SAT Word Power*. Punta Gorda, Florida: New Monic Books, 1997.
- *Marie’s Words*. Vocabulary cards with cartoons. www.marieswords.com/
- *Editor in Chief* series (books or software) from Critical Thinking Books and Software
- Kenneth Hodkinson, et. al. *Wordly Wise* vocabulary series. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Educators Publishing Service, 2007. Visit <http://eps.schoolspecialty.com/> for details.
- Paul R. Erwin. *Winston Grammar*. Battleground, Washington: Precious Memories Educational Resources, 1992. You will need one complete kit, plus a card set and a workbook for each student. www.winstongrammar.com or ChristianBook.com
- iSpellWell software. www.ispellwell.com
- Don McCabe. Sequential Spelling series. Birch Run, Michigan: AVKO, 1990-2006. <http://avko.org/sequentialspelling.html>
- *A Reason for Spelling* <http://www.areasonfor.com/article.php?id=18>

Writer's Workshop Resources

Ralph Fletcher. *A Writers Notebook: Unlocking the Writer in You*. New York: HarperTrophy, 1996. See also his other books, *How Writers Work: Finding a Process That Works For You*, and *Writing Workshop: The Essential Guide*.

Writing Programs

William Van Cleave, wvced.com offers great tools and ideas for teachers, including his masterful *Writing Matters*, great instruction on improving sentence and paragraph skills.

Julie Bogart. Bravewriter.com offers help to parents teaching writing.

2 by Diana Hanbury King: *Writing Skills*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Educators Publishing Service, 2004. eps.schoolspecialty.com/ *A Guide to Helping Your Child at Home: Developing Foundational Skills in Reading and Writing*. wvced.com

Frode Jensen. *Jensen's Format Writing*. Master Book Publishers, 2006. Don't get 1st edition; later editions have examples. DVD supplement of 12 lectures also available.

Andrew Pudewa. Institute for Excellence in Writing. www.excellenceinwriting.com

Accommodations

First, get help learning what accessibility tools are already on your computer or tablet.

WordQ and SpeakQ software. As you type, WordQ predicts your next word and lets you choose from a list. SpeakQ takes dictation and types for you. Designed for folks with learning disabilities. Easier to train to your student's voice than Dragon, below, but more expensive. Free 30 day trial from <http://www.goqsoftware.com/>

Dragon Naturally Speaking also takes dictation from you or your student. Nuance.com.

Spelling dictionaries are available from many publishers, including EPS, which carries *My Word Book*, *Words I Use When I Write*, and more <http://eps.schoolspecialty.com/>

Franklin makes many handheld electronic dictionaries—franklin.com. For teens, try the Speaking Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary.

Good writers handbooks to keep on your student's desk: www.thewritesource.com

Mannix, Darlene. *Writing Skills Activities for Special Children*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004, was recommended by a parent and covers elementary writing skills.

Verticy Learning - homeschool curriculum for children with language-based learning disabilities. From Calvert and Jemicy School, which serves children with LD. verticylearning.org