

## BOOK REVIEWS

### **DEVELOPMENTAL DYSPRAXIA: Identification and Intervention**

**A Manual for Parents and Professionals. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

**Madeleine Portwood**

**David Fulton Publishers London**

**201 pp- ISBN 1-85346-988-2**

This comprehensive manual tackles dyspraxia from all its aspects namely biological, neurological, behavioural and psychological. Intervention is also discussed in detail. The author is an educational psychologist who has worked with children with dyspraxia and who has researched this subject thoroughly for several years.

This book deals with normal brain development and its relationship with the production of movement. It highlights how the immaturity of a child's brain might relate to dyspraxia. The condition is described in simple language, which parents can understand and relate to. It includes comprehensive tables that can be used to compare normal developmental milestones with the developmental milestones of children with dyspraxia. Also highlighted are the characteristics of dyspraxia and its early developmental signs and behaviors.

Strategies for identification and diagnosis of this condition are discussed and a well illustrated Motor Skills Screening form details the tests that can be carried out.

An extensive part of this book is dedicated to various intervention programmes starting from the early years to well into primary school age. Remedial activities that tackle perceptual and motor difficulties are also highlighted.

This book concludes with a variety of appendices ranging from screening forms, remedial activities and information about where to look for help, thus making it an invaluable resource for both paediatric occupational therapists and the parents of children with dyspraxia.

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