



# Learning Differences

University of Wisconsin -  
Whitewater

Transition Program

Project ASSIST  
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# Famous People



- Tom Cruise
- Whoopi Goldberg
- General George Patton
- Walt Disney
- Winston Churchill
- Alexander Graham Bell

# Learning Disabilities

- Often very creative thinkers
- Problems in some areas doesn't mean slow/less intelligent
- Differences in how brain works
- Difficulties taking in and/or processing information
- Learn differently
- Find different ways to learn

# Types of Disabilities

- **Dyslexia**
  - Most common type
  - Trouble understanding written words
  - When not other disability, often only noticed when reading/writing
- **Dyscalculia**
  - Problems with math
- **Dysgraphia**
  - Trouble forming letters when writing

# Types of Disabilities

- Language disability
  - Problems understanding language
  - Even when seeing/hearing clearly
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
  - Problems with attention span
  - Often also have learning disability

# Students & LD

- Normal to have problems with school from time to time
- Normal to feel school places demands on us
- Look at learning strengths and weaknesses

# Students & LD (cont.)

- Students with learning disabilities sometimes report:
  - Struggle in school
  - Believe is harder for them than for friends
  - Have problems writing or reading
  - Consistently struggle with math, even with extra work, help
  - Struggle keeping organized
- Normal to feel any of these sometimes

# Strengths/Weaknesses

- Develop self-understand
- Identify strong areas
- Identify areas to improve
- Use strengths to enhance other skills
- Different learning needs, find alternative presentations, methods, strategies

# Advocacy: 10 Steps

1. Believe in yourself
2. Realize your rights
3. Discuss concerns
4. Get facts
5. Follow “chain of command”

# Advocacy: 10 Steps

6. Know appeal rights
7. Be assertive, persistent
8. Use communication skills
9. Ask for help
10. Follow up

# Want to Learn More?

## Want to learn more about how YOU learn?

- *ECLG Learning & Publishing Group* has developed a checklist that is available free, on-line to help people self-assess their learning needs at:

<http://www.eclg.com/pdfs/checklist.pdf>

- More helpful related links at:

<http://www.eclg.com/links.php>.