

# Individual Matters

Discover.  
Act.  
Grow.

Newsletter — November 2024 Issue

## Learning Differences: Why is my child struggling in school?

You likely know a child who struggles to read, write, or learn math. Perhaps *you* used to be one!

*The question is, “Why?”*

Sometimes, the reason is a learning disability (e.g., dyslexia).

But learning disabilities often overlap with other disorders or challenges:

- ADHD
- Executive functioning
- Fine motor coordination
- Autism
- Processing issues (sensory, visual, auditory)
- Language disorder

As a parent or teacher, how do you recognize these challenges? Who can assess and treat them? And how can you support your struggling student?

**You will find answers to these questions in the conversations below.**

This month, on [The Individual Matters Podcast](#), we interviewed two experts about some of the common (but perhaps not well known) reasons why children struggle to learn.

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## **Change Your Vision, Change Your Life: The Power of Vision Therapy**

Your child’s “vision” is far more complex than what is screened at school, or even during a typical optometrist visit.

This is an information-packed episode about how and why visual processing impacts child development, learning, and life success.

Dr. Richard Graebe, OD, FCOVD, is a Behavioral and Neuro Rehabilitation Optometrist and learning expert at the [Neuro-Visual Performance Institute](#) in Versailles, Kentucky. His team offers vision therapy and neuro-rehabilitation services to patients of all ages, including struggling readers, athletes, and individuals with brain injury.

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## Helping Your Child with Language-Based Learning Disabilities

In his book, "Helping Your Child with Language-Based Learning Disabilities," [Daniel Franklin, Ph.D.](#), explains how and why learning disorders, ADHD, and processing issues overlap — and mostly importantly, what parents and teachers can do to support their students.

In this episode, we cover:

- Learning to read/write, vs. reading/writing to learn
- Collaboration vs. Enabling
- Dynamic assessment
- The important of relationships
- The homework battle

- Why "Children are consistently inconsistent"
- And more!

Dr. Franklin holds a Master's degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Education in Reading, Language, and Learning Disabilities, a PhD from UCLA in Education, and he is a Board Certified Educational Therapist. He has over 30 years of experience in education as a teacher, administrator, and consultant. He is founder and president of Los Angeles-based Franklin Educational Service, LLC, which provides a wide range of individualized school support services for students of all ages and needs.

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### **Need a Training for Your Organization?**

Individual Matters can design an educational experience that meets your unique needs. Contact us to learn how the [IM Learning Institute](#) can support your business, school, or agency with an individualized training or workshop.

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“Dyslexic kids are creative, ‘outside-the-box’ thinkers. They have to be, because they don’t see or solve problems the same way other kids do.”

-Rick Riordan, author of the “Percy Jackson” book series

Happy November to you and yours!



**Dr. Katrina Katen**  
Clinical Psychologist



**Andrew Katen**  
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