

Research shows that more explicit instructional approaches have the strongest impact on the skill development of learners at risk of reading difficulty such as dyslexia. Lexia PowerUp Literacy is a highly personalised and structured blended-learning approach to literacy support that is designed to create individualised learning paths for students who are at risk for not meeting further education- and career-ready standards, including pupils with dyslexia.

Definition of Dyslexia

The British Dyslexia Association (BDA) has adopted the Rose Report (2009) definition of dyslexia:

“Dyslexia is a learning difficulty that primarily affects the skills involved in accurate and fluent word reading and spelling. Characteristic features of dyslexia are difficulties in phonological awareness, verbal memory and verbal processing speed. Dyslexia occurs across the range of intellectual abilities. It is best thought of as a continuum, not a distinct category, and there are no clear cut-off points. Co-occurring difficulties may be seen in aspects of language, motor co-ordination, mental calculation, concentration and personal organisation, but these are not, by themselves, markers of dyslexia. A good indication of the severity and persistence of dyslexic difficulties can be gained by examining how the individual responds or has responded to well-founded intervention.

In addition to these characteristics: The BDA acknowledges the visual and auditory processing difficulties that some individuals with dyslexia can experience and points out that dyslexic readers can show a combination of abilities and difficulties that affect the learning process. Some also have strengths in other areas, such as design, problem solving, creative skills, interactive skills and oral skills.”

BDA (2010)

Product Overview

PowerUp provides students with a systematic and structured approach across 3 main domains: Word Study, Grammar and Comprehension.

The introduction of skills is done in a systematic sequence that moves from simple to complex and spirals back to review and integrate material previously introduced.

This intensive review and practice is a critical characteristic of effective intervention for students with dyslexia.



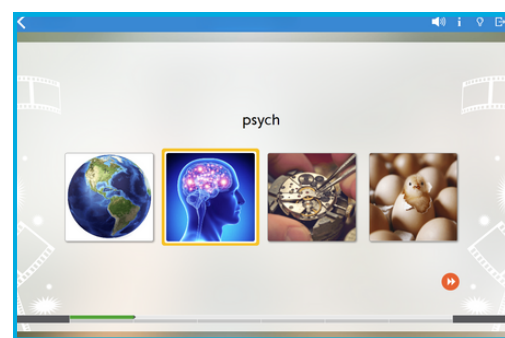
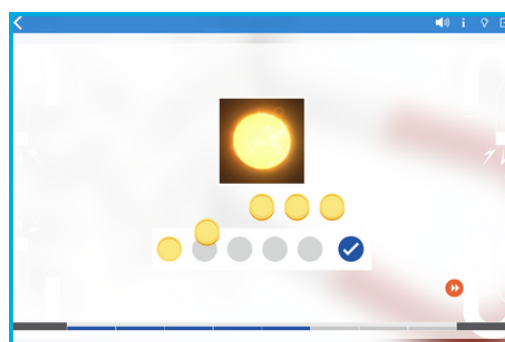
PowerUp is based on the Simple View of Reading which states that reading success is dependent on both word recognition and language comprehension. If a student does not have adequate underlying skills in both areas, reading success is compromised. Struggling adolescent readers, including those with dyslexia, have such varied skill profiles that what works for one student may not be best for another. For example, one student may require additional support with decoding while being able to comprehend a text adequately, while another can decode words effectively from a list but struggles to derive meaning from them when organised into paragraphs. For this reason, PowerUp is split into three domains: Word Study, Grammar, and Comprehension.

Word Study

Through structured and systematic activities, Lexia PowerUp Literacy teaches students to accurately and automatically read multisyllabic words. The goal of word study is to develop accuracy, automaticity and fluency in reading by supporting students in identifying the reliable and recurring patterns in spoken and written words. In the Word Study strand, Lexia PowerUp Literacy systematically advances students' knowledge of patterns in English through spiralled learning.

In the Foundational levels, PowerUp Word Study activities build phonological awareness while also developing sound-symbol knowledge for consonants, digraphs and short vowels. Students develop an awareness of sound and syllable patterns and apply this knowledge to reading and spelling.

As students progress through the Intermediate and Advanced levels of the Word Study strand, they learn rules for syllable division and spelling rules, as well as Latin and Greek-derived morphemes. Students practise letter-sound patterns in the context of multisyllabic words like those they will encounter in curriculum texts for a wide range of subjects.

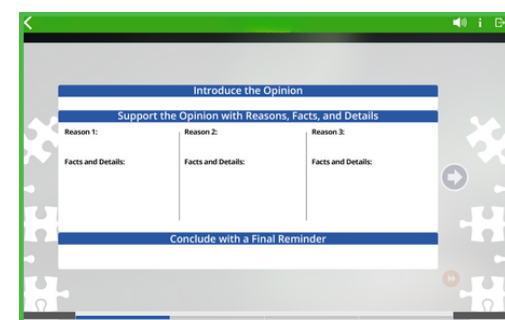
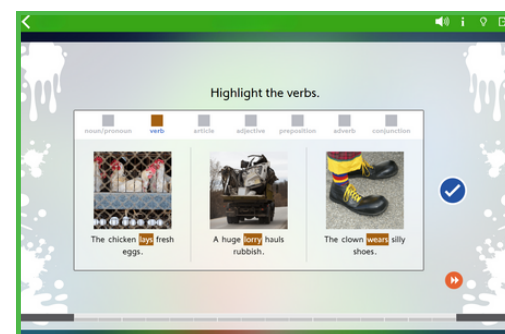


Grammar

The Grammar strand aims to support all students, including those with dyslexia, to improve written composition and reading comprehension by supporting an understanding of how written language works. Through systematic, spiralled instruction, Lexia PowerUp Literacy teaches students how to think and talk about written language. The Grammar strand introduces students to the parts of speech, parts of sentences, and writing conventions with engaging videos.

Through a variety of activities, students practice identifying the key elements of grammar to learn how the parts of speech function in sentences and how parts of sentences convey meaning.

In Lexia PowerUp Literacy, students learn to identify the functions of words in sentences; of sentence parts; of different types of sentences and of capitalisation and punctuation. Students then build on this foundation to learn the structures of different text genres.

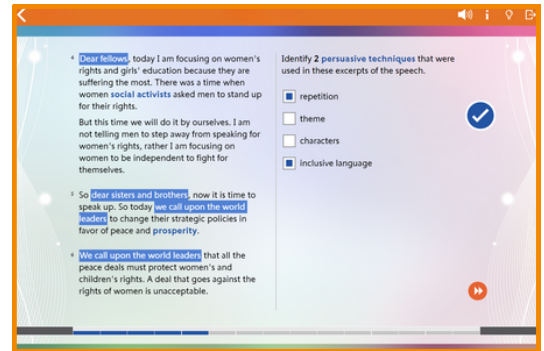
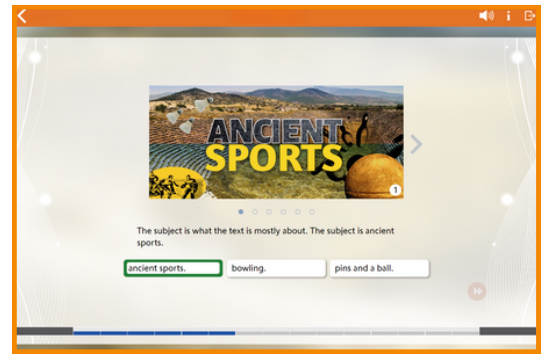


Comprehension

The Comprehension strand of PowerUp systematically guides students through the process of reading a text deeply. Before students read a text, academic vocabulary is introduced and practised. Hook videos pique students' interest, provide background knowledge to the text, and establish a purpose for reading.

During the initial reading of the text, key text-specific vocabulary words appear with images and definitions to support understanding.

Comprehension skills and strategies are introduced through engaging instructional videos. Next, appropriately scaffolded instructions, prompts and transitions guide students through the close reading of the text. Students are then asked to find evidence in the text, answer text-dependent questions, and complete text-dependent tasks that lead them from a general to a deeper understanding of the text. Students learn to identify key ideas and details of a text, to examine how the author conveys ideas, and to determine what the text implies. Ultimately, students use their analytical skills to evaluate across multiple texts or other media.



Explicit Presentation of Concepts

The PowerUp instructional model integrates explicit online activities with multisensory teacher-led lessons to enhance teaching. While a pupil works on an activity, the program provides a scaffolding system for support and additional teaching as necessary. If a learner struggles in a unit, they move to Instruction mode, which reduces stimuli, provides additional structure, and explicitly teaches the targeted skill. Teachers have access to online reports that provide continuous assessment data, allowing educators to identify students who are struggling with a particular skill.

The Importance of Multisensory Learning

As pupils work through the online activities in PowerUp, auditory information is supported through engaging visual demonstrations and examples. Offline materials provide opportunities for learners to reinforce both foundational and advanced literacy skills using multisensory manipulative materials, as well as opportunities to interact with content in a hands-on and collaborative way. The multisensory approach allows students with dyslexia to learn through multiple modalities.

Why Choose Lexia for Pupils with Dyslexia?

Lexia Learning was founded in 1984 by Bob Lemire to provide reading intervention for pupils with language-based learning difficulties like dyslexia. While other reading programs may be described as research-based, Lexia programs are also research-proven to improve learning outcomes and are evaluated using rigorous scientific methods, as seen in gold-standard efficacy studies. Lexia now helps 3.8 million pupils of all abilities worldwide to master critical reading and language skills so they can become proficient readers and confident learners across the curriculum.

About LexiaUK

LexiaUK has been dedicated to providing personalised, engaging, effective, and relevant literacy solutions to schools across the UK & Ireland for over 30 years. With a robust offering that includes solutions for differentiated support, personalised learning, and assessment, LexiaUK provides educators across the UK and Ireland with the tools to intensify and accelerate literacy skills development for pupils of all abilities.