

MAKE DYSLEXIA YOUR SUPERPOWER

Celebrating Dyslexia 2025 Karen Watkins

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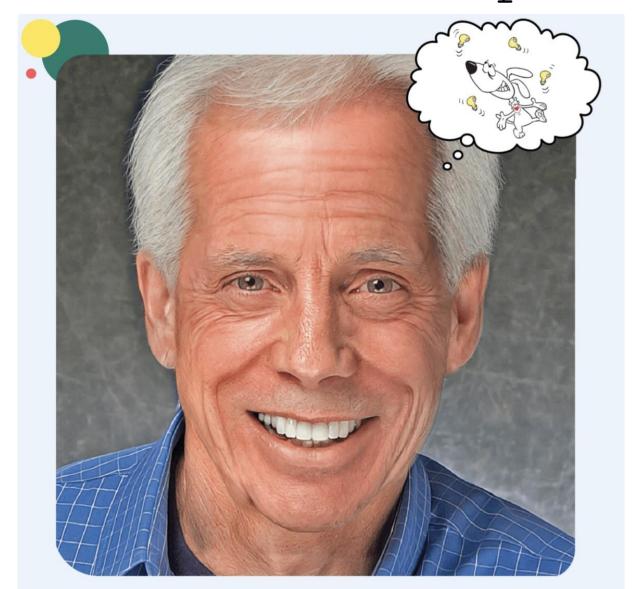
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Dyslexia Defined

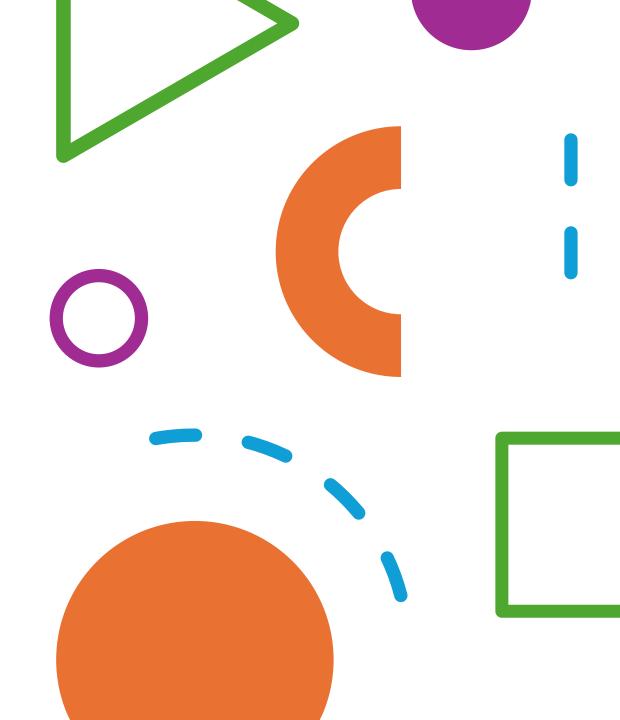
Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities.

Meet Chic Thompson



Early Childhood

From his first childhood drawing to his latest business adventure, Chic has had a passion for creating, finding, and sharing new ideas. He gets his best ideas when taking a shower and not at a desk.



Long Hours

• As a child, Chic spent many long hours "stuck" fighting the fears of expressing his ideas in class. He struggled academically in school. He did lots of extra credit like drawing cartoons and giving oral presentations in order to graduate from high school.

The Journey of Chic Thompson

- Dropped out of college three times but never gave up.
- Believed deeply in the value of his ideas and creativity.
- Used curiosity and love of learning to fuel success.
- Became a chemist, a cartoon company founder, and an educator.
- Taught at schools that initially rejected him.

How did Chic overcome his struggles?

He sees in opposites which he credits to his gift of dyslexia. He often takes "a lot of missteps," but these so-called missteps have led him to success. "I love the magic of opposite thinking, because at first glance opposite ideas sound absurd, contradictory, illogical and fly in the face of all reason." However, "they can open up possibilities, break through mental blocks and pull the rug out from under the false assumptions."



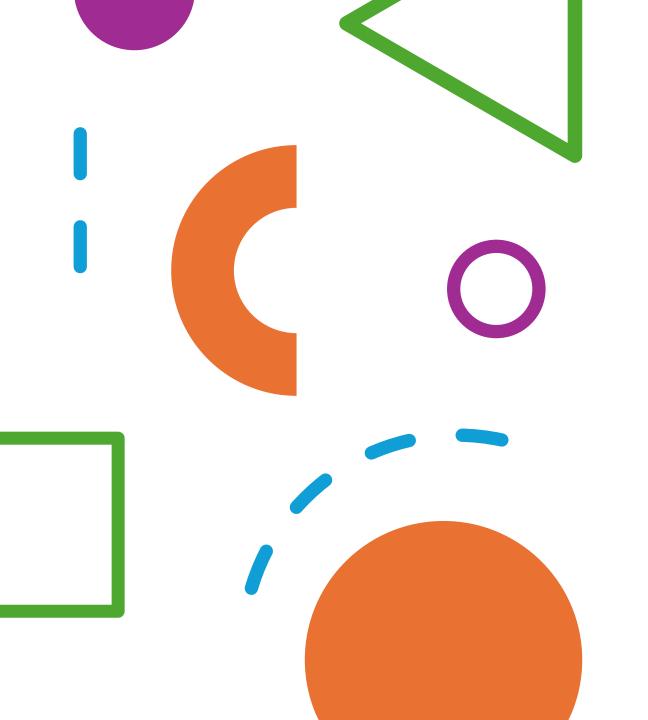
What's right?

Chic sees in different directions. Whenever something goes wrong, he doesn't give up. He asks, "What's right about it?" These answers have helped change and shape him into the successful person he is today.



Advice from Chic:

- 1. Be Curious First...Critical Second
- 2. Look for Second and Third "Right" Answers
- 3. The Question is the Answer
- 4. Think in Opposites
- 5. DIY Brainstorming
- 6. Keep Your Brain Alive



Be Curious First...Crit ical Second:

When you see or hear a new idea, be curious first to explore the possibilities and be critical second to calculate the probabilities.

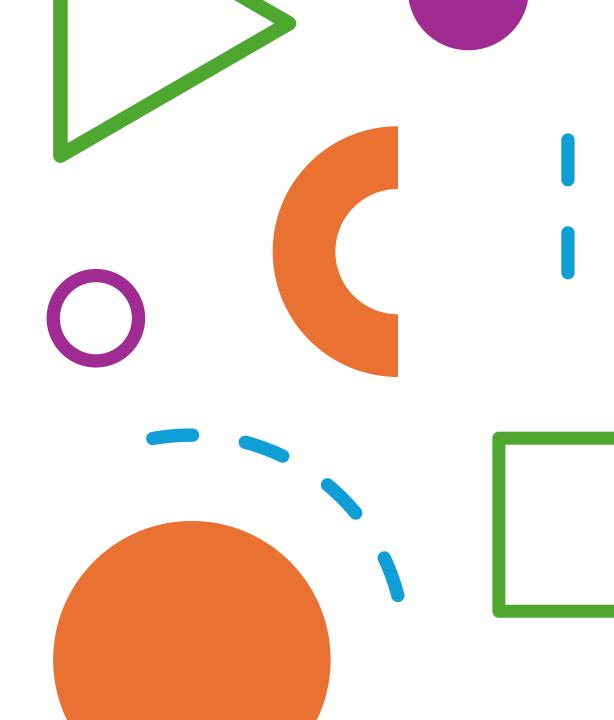
Look for
Second and
Third "Right"
Answers:

Reframe your challenge and see it from different perspectives to generate fresh new solutions.



The Question is the Answer:

Ask great questions to reveal new ideas.



Think in Opposites:

Act on opposite trends and turn obstacles into an opportunity



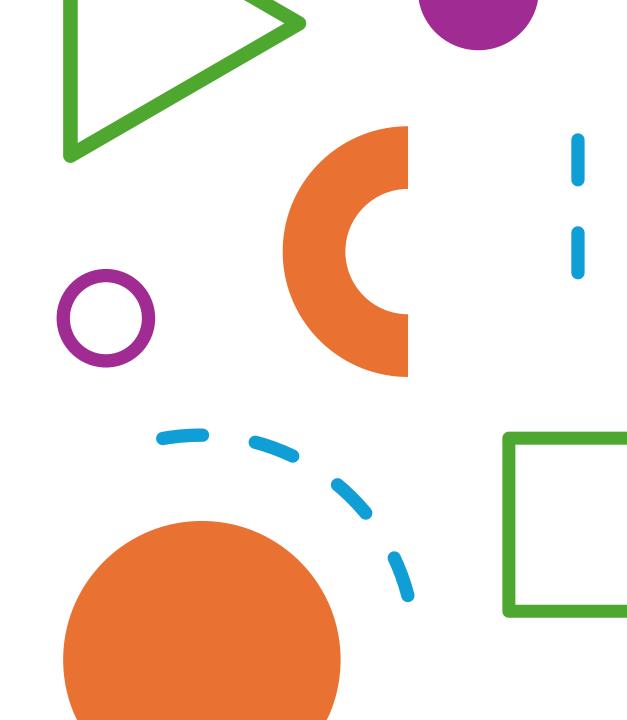
DIY Brainstormi ng:

Come up with ideas when you're stuck, arms crossed, and staring at your computer.



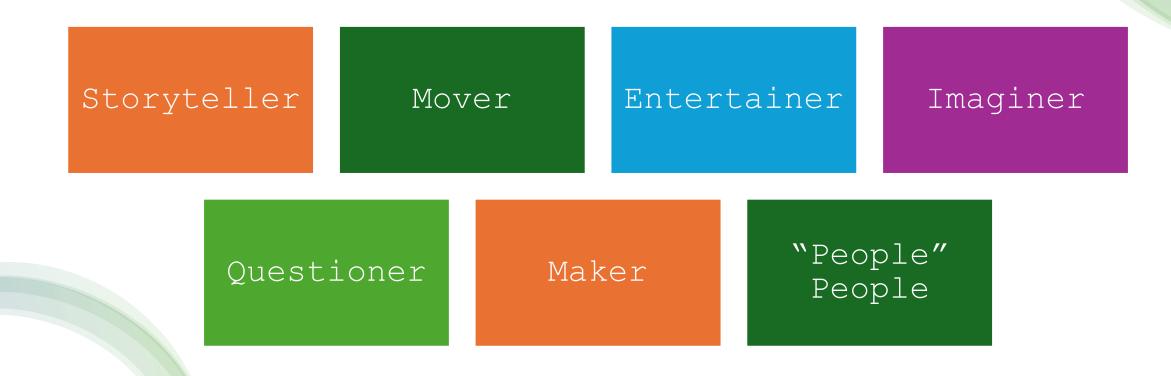
Keep Your Brain Alive:

Keep your mind sharp so you can come up with ideas anytime and any place.



Chic Thompson said that dyslexia was a gift. He used that gift or superpower to become successful.

What is Your Superpower?



Storytellers

Great communicators

Elaborate explainers

Persuasive

Invents stories

Storytellers can be journalists, teachers, writers, politicians, or campaigners.

Movers

Fidgets

Physical risk takers Sports/ball skills

Balance

Climbing

Gymnastics

Movers often become musicians, sports people, dancers, or firefighters.

Entertainers

Born to entertain

Music and Rhythm

Singing

Dancing

Jokers

Expressive Arts

Entertainers often become actors, musicians, salespeople, PR people, or presenters.

Imaginers

Loves daydreaming, making up games and imaginary worlds, creating dens, and getting lost in their imagination.

Imaginers often become scientists, inventors, entrepreneurs, artists, actors, or filmmakers.

Questioners

Constantly asks why, why not?

Challenges the norm

Always curious

Problem solvers

Explains things to everyone

Questioners often become journalists, writers, or entrepreneurs.

Makers

Naturally good at puzzles, Legos, building things, making things, cooking, crafts, art, and painting.

Makers often become architects, chefs, designers, gardeners, artists, or programmers.

"People" People

Driven to serve

Peacemakers

Social Organizers

Busybodies

"People" People often become nurses, doctors, teachers, careworkers, or managers.

Find Your Superpow er!

