Thinking Differently: An Inspiring Guide For Parents Of Children With Learning Disabilities
Synopsis

An innovative, comprehensive guide - the first of its kind - to help parents understand and accept learning disabilities in their children, offering tips and strategies for successfully advocating on their behalf and helping them become their own best advocates. In Thinking Differently, David Flink, the leader of Eye to Eye - a national mentoring program for students with learning and attention issues - enlarges our understanding of the learning process and offers powerful, innovative strategies for parenting, teaching, and supporting the 20 percent of students with learning disabilities. An outstanding fighter who has helped thousands of children adapt to their specific learning issues, Flink understands the needs and experiences of these children firsthand. He, too, has dyslexia and ADHD. Focusing on how to arm students who think and learn differently with essential skills, including meta-cognition and self-advocacy, Flink offers real, hard advice, providing the tools to address specific problems they face - from building self-esteem and reconstructing the learning environment, to getting proper diagnoses and discovering their inner gifts. With his easy, hands-on "Step-by-Step Launchpad to Empowerment", parents can take immediate steps to improve their children's lives. Thinking Differently is a brilliant, compassionate work, packed with essential insights and real-world applications indispensable for parents, educators, and other professional involved with children with learning disabilities.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If your child has struggles that you think might be related to LD/ADHD, or if your child has
LD/ADHD, then you NEED to read this book. David acts as a guide who has helped me to understand my journey and the challenges of my children who are different learners. David sets out a blueprint of hope and change for the 20% of the population that are different thinkers. I was deeply moved by David’s stories and was literally brought to tears at many points in the book. Don’t allow your child to feel like the "puzzle piece that does not fit into the puzzle" or experience the shame that often accompanies LD/ADHD. There are so many options and resources available that David has set out in this amazing book. Why wouldn’t you buy a book that could literally transform your child’s life? I am so happy I did!!!

On the heels of The Dyslexia Empowerment Plan, by Ben Foss, and The Dyslexic Advantage, by Brock and Fernette Eide, David Flink’s Thinking Differently completes the triple play in contemporary LD literature. What makes Flink’s book stand out is his ability to tell stories to which everyone can relate. His prose is fluid and easy to read, and his advice to families is never preachy. What I like most is that he shares his own experiences of living with dyslexia and ADHD, but he does not claim that his particular path to success is the right one for everybody. He emphasizes that every LD/ADHD person has his or her own unique strengths and weaknesses, and by enlisting the help of allies and advocates, they can all find their individual roads to success. In short, he provides a great deal of hope. For those seeking more information on how to help children (and adults) with LD/ADHD, I would recommend reading this book first before turning to the more detailed information that Foss and the Eides provide in their texts, which are excellent as well.

This book perfectly balances a "big picture" overview of the important issues facing children who learn and think differently in school and life, with detailed recommendations that will help them (and their parents and teachers) deal successfully with those issues. It is written with great clarity, sensitivity, and insight by someone who knows these issues both as an individual with dyslexia and ADHD, and as co-founder and leader of one of the most important and innovative organizations in the LD field. Highly recommended to parents and teachers/tutors of LD students, and to LD students themselves in middle school and above.

I am a founding board member of the Parents Education Network (www.parentseducationnetwork.org). As a parent of a child with dyslexia, I found the lack of understanding (including our own as parents) to be more confounding than any experience ever faced personally or professionally. Understanding how our daughter learned and learned best,
figuring out how to advocate for her, and finding the right school and support was a staggering undertaking. Really, it became a second job. Fortunately we were not alone and we formed our non-profit so that families would not need to struggle in the dark as we had. As a parent and a board member, I’ve read just about everything on the market pertaining to learning, especially learning differently. NEVER have I read a book more helpful, insightful, informative or important as David’s Think Differently. Parents are too often overwhelmed by the advice, programs and offerings of others. David not only communicates all the necessary information, he makes it understandable and usable. More importantly, he gives us the tools needed to better parent our kids and instill the self-knowledge and confidence our kids need to navigate the difficult terrain of learning while learning differently. This book is empowering for both the parent and the student. Certainly this should come as no surprise given the amazing work of Eye to Eye. David has lived this journey personally and made it his life’s work - because it is his passion. He’s shifted the paradigm of how we think about kids who learn differently by squarely placing learning and the power of learning in their hands. Wow. Thank you, David

Well written did the audio book in one day ! Love it I feel like he just gets it I wish my parents had this book for when I was a kid instead of just medical journals

I’ve read a long list of books on LD “some simply for entertaining perspective and some for personal development. In Thinking Differently Flink manages to provide both in brilliant fashion. A fluid read that provides a sincere look into his own issues and then with equal sincerity lists constructive ideas for managing them in today’s highly competitive (and often repressive) education system. I expect to return to it many times as our first begins kindergarten this coming week.

The subtitle for this book is geared at parents and Children with learning disabilities, but this book is done so well, that it could be for ANYONE who would want to understand learning disabilities better. This books is simple to read, and promotes change for the betterment of society, just as Flink does professionally with Eye to Eye. This book is a handbook and a manual to understanding LD, become empowered by it and promote change. I have already seen this book impact a few people’s lives.

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