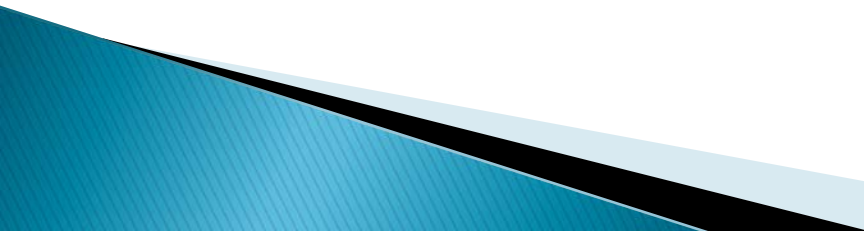


# Special Needs

Descriptions and Characteristics

# EACC Disability Areas

- ▶ LD–learning disabled
  - ▶ ED–emotionally disabled
  - ▶ MiMH–mild mental handicap
  - ▶ ASD–autism spectrum disorder
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# Learning Disability

- ▶ Definition—a condition giving rise to difficulties in acquiring knowledge and skills to the level expected of those of the same age, especially when not associated with a physical handicap.

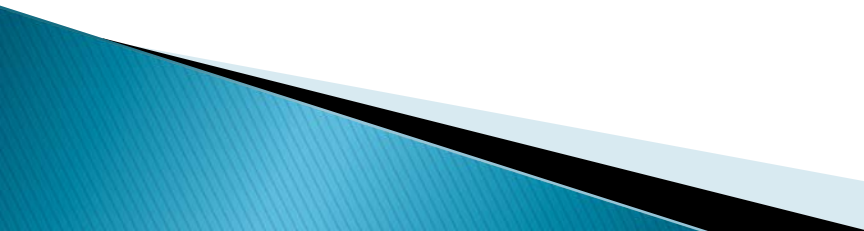
# How does a learning disability affect students?

- ▶ Processing problems can interfere with learning basic skills such as reading, writing and/or math. They can also interfere with higher level skills such as organization, time planning, abstract reasoning, long or short term memory and attention.

# Types of Learning Disabilities

- ▶ **Auditory Processing Disorder (APD)**–affects how sound travels through the ear and is processed by the brain. Cannot recognize differences in word regardless of volume or clarity of speech.
- ▶ **Dyscalculia**–disability that affects a person’s ability to understand numbers and learn math facts. Affects comprehension of math symbols, telling time, counting, memorizing, and organizing numbers.

# Types of Learning Disabilities

- ▶ **Dysgraphia**—affects a person's handwriting ability and fine motor skills. May be seen in illegible handwriting, poor spacing and planning on paper, spelling, writing, and thinking/writing at the same time.
  - ▶ **Dyslexia**—disability that affects reading and related language-based processing skills. Affects reading fluency, decoding, reading comprehension, recall, writing, spelling, and sometimes speech.
- 

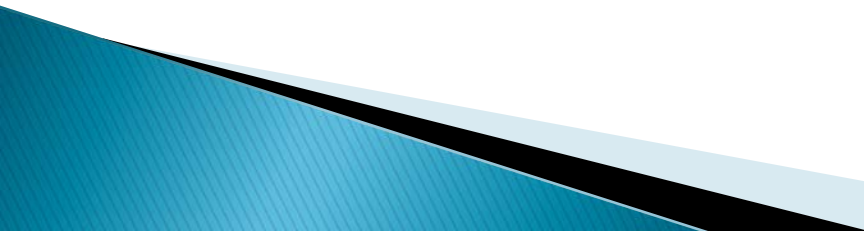
We all see things the same way,  
We see words in groups or phrases,  
The print is more dominant than the  
background. If the print shows no  
movement. If the printed letters are  
evenly black. Black print on  
white paper gives the best contrast  
for everyone. White background  
looks white.

We all see things the same way,  
We see words in groups or phrases,  
The print is more dominant than the

THEY CAN READ  
AND THEY CAN  
RECREATE WITH  
IT AND BE LIKE  
READ AND READ,  
WERE THEY  
DEVELOPED IN  
THE FIELD OF  
WITH THEM BY  
THE READING  
THE HEAVEN  
CAN A FEW  
WITH THEM  
THEY CAN  
READ



# Types of Learning Disabilities

- ▶ **Language Processing Disorder**—there is difficulty attaching meaning to sound groups that form words, sentences and stories.
  - ▶ **Non-Verbal Learning Disabilities**—has trouble interpreting nonverbal cues like facial expressions or body language, and may have poor coordination.
  - ▶ **Visual Perceptual/Visual Motor Deficit**—affects the understanding of information that a person sees, or the ability to draw or copy.
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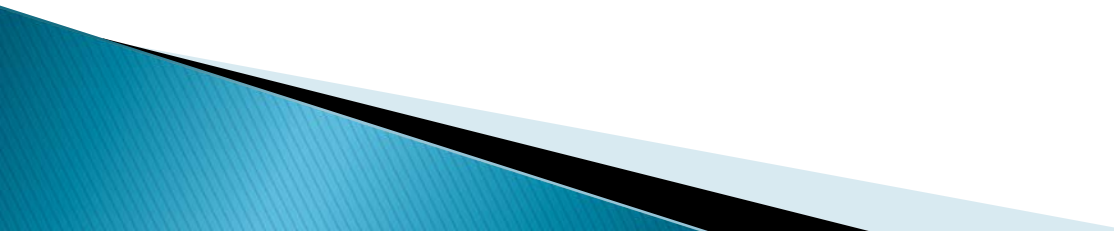
# Emotional Disability

- ▶ Definition—An emotional and/or behavioral disability is a disability that impacts a person's ability to effectively recognize, interpret, control, and express fundamental emotions.

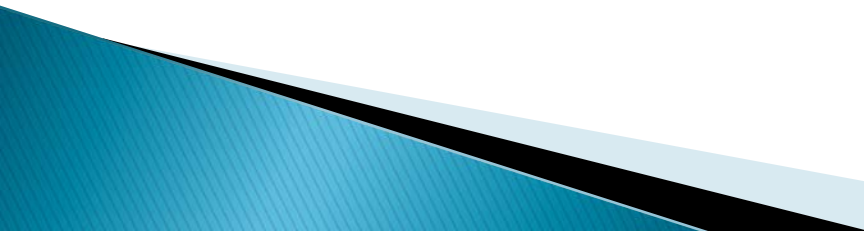
# Types of Emotional Disabilities

- ▶ Anxiety Disorders– anxiety can be excessive, persistent, seemingly uncontrollable, and overwhelming. Most common psychiatric disorder and PTSD, OCD, panic disorder, phobias, and social anxiety are under this umbrella.
- ▶ Bob Wiley

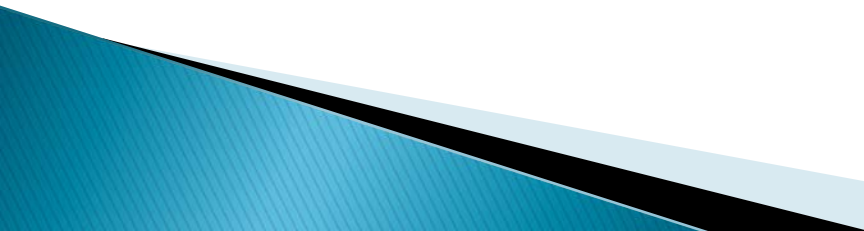
# Types of Emotional Disabilities

- ▶ Bipolar Disorder—Also known as manic–depressive illness, bipolar disorder is a serious medical condition that causes dramatic mood swings from overly “high” and/or irritable to sad and hopeless, and then back again.
- 

# Types of Emotional Disabilities

- ▶ Conduct Disorders–Children and adolescents with this disorder have great difficulty following rules and behaving in a socially acceptable way.
  - ▶ aggression to people and animals;
  - ▶ destruction of property;
  - ▶ deceitfulness, lying, or stealing; or
  - ▶ truancy or other serious violations of rules
- 

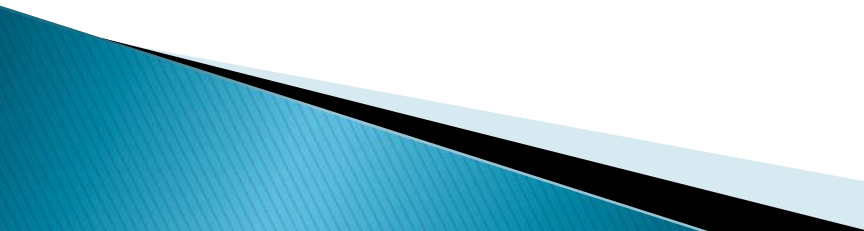
# Types of Emotional Disabilities

- ▶ Eating Disorders—Eating disorders are characterized by extremes in eating behavior—either too much or too little—or feelings of extreme distress or concern about body weight or shape.
  - ▶ Anorexia nervosa is characterized by self-starvation and dramatic loss of weight.
  - ▶ Bulimia nervosa involves a cycle of binge eating, then self-induced vomiting or purging.
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# Types of Emotional Disabilities

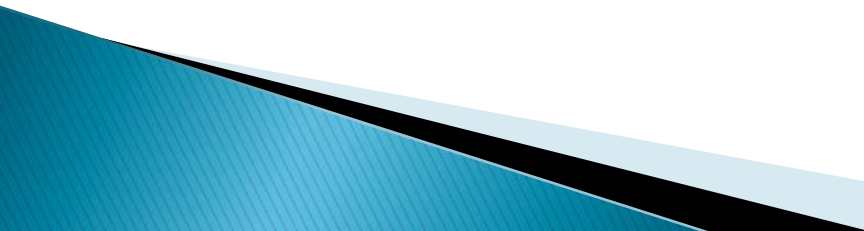
- ▶ Obsessive Compulsive Disorder(OCD)– characterized by recurrent, unwanted thoughts (obsessions) and/or repetitive behaviors (compulsions).
- ▶ Repetitive behaviors (handwashing, counting, checking, or cleaning) are often performed with the hope of preventing obsessive thoughts, however, provides only temporary relief, and not performing them markedly increases anxiety.
- ▶ What it's like

# Types of Emotional Disabilities

- ▶ Psychotic Disorders—umbrella term used to refer to severe mental disorders that cause abnormal thinking and perceptions.
  - ▶ Schizophrenia is most common
  - ▶ Two of the main symptoms are delusions and hallucinations.
- 



# Mild Mental Handicap(MiMH)

- ▶ Definition–exists in children whose brains do not develop properly or function within the normal range.
  - ▶ Master academic skills up to about the sixth–grade level and are able to learn job skills well enough to support themselves independently or semi–independently.
  - ▶ May develop strong social skills that helps compensate and can live normal productive lives.
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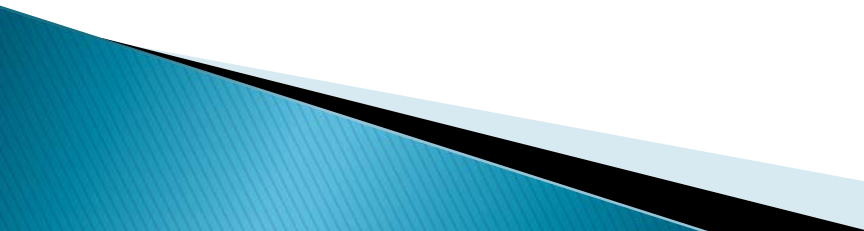
# MiMH

## ▶ Characteristics

- takes longer to learn to talk, but can communicate well once he or she knows how
- fully independent in self-care
- has problems with reading and writing
- is socially immature
- is unable to deal with responsibilities of marriage or parenting
- has an IQ range of 50 to 69
- Can struggle with recalling of facts and use of short term memory

# Autism Spectrum Disorder(ASD)

## ▶ Characteristics–

- Persistent deficits in social communication and social interaction across multiple contexts
  - Restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, or activities
  - Symptoms must be present in the early developmental period (typically recognized in the first two years of life)
  - Symptoms cause clinically significant impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of current functioning
- 

# ASD

## ▶ Social impairment-

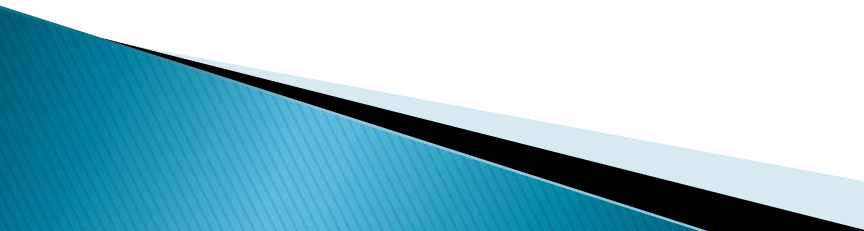
- Make little eye contact
- Tend to look and listen less to people in their environment or fail to respond to other people
- Rarely seek to share their enjoyment of toys or activities by pointing or showing things to others
- Respond unusually when others show anger, distress, or affection

# ASD

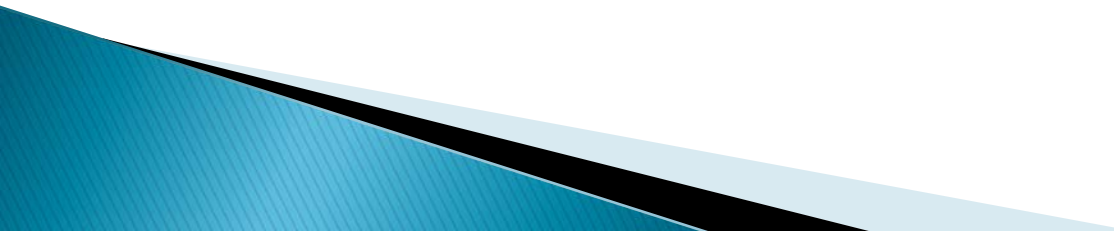
## ▶ Sensory problems–

- Dislike or show discomfort from a light touch or the feel of clothes on their skin
- Experience pain from certain sounds, like a vacuum cleaner, a ringing telephone, or a sudden storm; sometimes they will cover their ears and scream
- Have no reaction to intense cold or pain

# Asperger's Syndrome

- ▶ Less severe symptoms than autism and the absence of language delays.
  - ▶ Individuals with Asperger's Disorder usually want to fit in and have interaction with others, but often they don't know how to do it.
  - ▶ Their interests in a particular subject may border on the obsessive.
  - ▶ May not understand the subtleties of language, such as irony and humor.
  - ▶ A person with Asperger's Disorder cannot have a "clinically significant" cognitive delay, and most possess average to above-average intelligence.
- 

# Pervasive Developmental Disorder– Not Otherwise Specified(PDD–NOS)

- ▶ Applied to children or adults who are on the autism spectrum but do not fully meet the criteria for another ASD.
  - ▶ Its defining features are significant challenges in social and language development.
  - ▶ It's the diagnosis used for someone who has some but not all characteristics of autism or who has relatively mild symptoms.
- 

# Useful Links

- ▶ <http://www.autism-society.org/what-is/aspergers-syndrome/>
- ▶ <http://ldaamerica.org/types-of-learning-disabilities/>
- ▶ <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/emotionaldisturbance/>
- ▶ <http://www.specialeducationguide.com/>