#### Andria Wallace, Certified Orton-Gillingham Dyslexia Practitioner 443 N. New Ballas Rd. Suite 222, St. Louis, MO 63141 314-359-9127 • eyesandhandslearning@gmail.com eyesandhandslearning.com/tutoring

# Training and Certification

Ms. Wallace is trained and certified through the Scottish Rites Children's Dyslexia Center, which is accredited by the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) and the International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC).



This Orton-Gillingham structured literacy training requires 45 classroom hours of masters-level instruction, plus a 100-hour supervised practicum. Certification must be renewed every 3 years by completing 30 hours of continuing education.

Ms. Wallace tutored at the Children's Dyslexia Center in Southern Illinois from 2009-2021, and now offers the same high-quality structured literacy instruction through her private tutoring practice in the St. Louis metro area.

## Experience with Dyslexia

Ms. Wallace has been tutoring students with dyslexia since 2009. She employs the structured literacy approach called Orton-Gillingham which is the research backed evidence-based best practice for teaching struggling readers, including those with dyslexia and other learning disabilities. Students receive personalized, multisensory instruction that explicitly and sequentially teaches a structured scope and sequence of concepts to help strengthen underlying reading and spelling competency. This includes components such as phonics and decoding, syllable structure and syllable type, morphology and phonemic awareness. Lessons address not only improving decoding and fluency in reading, but also applying those components to strengthen spelling as well.

Because lessons implement this specialized instruction, services do not include any general tutoring in academic subjects or help with homework.

Ms. Wallace typically works with students in elementary and middle school, though tutoring can help older students as well.

"I cannot fathom where Connor would be without working with you. We are so grateful for what he has been able to achieve. Thank you for your patience and care!"

#### Andria Wallace, Certified Orton-Gillingham Dyslexia Practitioner 443 N. New Ballas Rd. Suite 222, St. Louis, MO 63141 314-359-9127 • eyesandhandslearning@gmail.com eyesandhandslearning.com/tutoring

### **Tutoring Sessions**

Ms. Wallace does not require a formal diagnosis of dyslexia in order to work with a student. During the first session, she performs an informal assessment to determine where the student is with their reading and spelling abilities. Lessons then gradually and explicitly introduce each new concept to help students build a more solid foundation of skills that lead to improved reading, spelling and self-confidence.

Ms. Wallace customizes lessons for each student for every lesson. While there is an overall structure and carefully chosen order of concepts, lessons are personalized based on each student's skills, abilities and progress. By not using a preset or scripted curriculum, she can personalize the lessons to best meet the needs of each individual student. In addition, she has also developed a number of innovative hands-on tools and activities to help students better learn, understand and remember.

In order to be effective, students are asked to attend tutoring sessions two times per week. Each one-on-one session consists of a 50-minute lesson, then a few minutes at the end where they can share with you what they worked on and read for you.

All tutoring takes place at the office located at 443 N. New Ballas Rd, Suite 222 St. Louis, MO 63141.

## **Results and Duration**

Each student has their own unique strengths, difficulties and learning capacities. These factors, along with their willingness to participate and cooperate, affect progress and growth. Students with learning disabilities generally require more time to learn and integrate new concepts. There is no quick fix when students are struggling with reading and spelling, it will usually take between 1-2 years of twice-weekly tutoring. However, noticeable changes and improvements can be seen much earlier along the way. Students are only asked to read and spell words that contain concepts they have been explicitly taught, allowing them to begin experiencing success while they are developing a solid foundation of skills.

As students gain mastery and confidence in what they are learning, not only will you see improvements in their reading and spelling at school, you will also begin to see the corresponding increases in their self-confidence and self-esteem that result from the success they are experiencing in their tutoring sessions.

Call or email Ms. Wallace to find out how she can help your struggling reader!