



HOW TO END

Homework Meltdowns

in

5 Simple Steps

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5 Steps to END Homework Meltdowns

Thank you for signing up for my report. As a bonus, you will also receive my Weekly eZine delivered to your inbox. Don't worry, if you wish to stop receiving the Weekly eZine you can simply unsubscribe. My eZine is jam packed with great Tips and recommendations so I hope you'll find it as exciting as I do!

Let me give you my background and how I got started in helping to end homework Meltdowns.

My daughter, Shannon, is now 12 y/o and was diagnosed with neuroblastoma and Opsoclonus Myoclonus Syndrome (OMS) which is an autoimmune disorder at the age of 11 mos.

Her autoimmune caused injury to her brain which made learning pretty frustrating.

My son, who is now 10 y/o, has what is known as Sensory Processing Disorder.

Both of my children suffered from the Homework Meltdowns on a daily basis.

After researching for help for my daughter's brain injury, I discovered a lot of necessary information that was never given to me by the schools about the process of learning.

In fact, I was so surprised to hear this information, I decided to return to school for my Master's in Special Education figuring I would learn about the process of learning in depth.

I learned about this process but never from the perspective of how the brain learns. This is the piece I stumbled upon when looking for help for my daughter. This is what I want to share with you now.

This report will give you the background information you need to know, as parents, to put an end to your child's homework meltdowns and change your child's life.

First, I am going to give you some statistics about high school dropouts. Why?

Because all of the information you learn in the 5 steps directly impact your child's decision to stay in school or drop out.

After the statistics, I am going to introduce and explain the 5 steps that will allow your child to learn easily and efficiently. This translates to your child being able to do homework at home without meltdowns.

Lastly, I explain how homework meltdowns relate to the 5 steps and what you can do to prevent future meltdowns.

Okay, let's begin.

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, From October 2007 to October 2008, 400,000 persons between the ages of 16 and 24 dropped out of high school.

Most high school dropouts will average about \$17,299 in annual income.

However a high school graduate will average \$26,933.

This is a difference of \$9,634 (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2006).

Here's what's interesting, though—according to the “Silent Epidemic” report, most students (70%) blame themselves, saying they could graduate if they had tried harder.

Students felt they did not try hard enough and they failed. Learning was hard but if “they” just kept trying, they would have gotten through.

Further, the report informs us that “while most dropouts blame themselves for failing to graduate, there are things they say schools can do to help them finish.”

According to the US Department of Education (2001), successful learning and reading relies on underlying processes of attention, memory, and reasoning.

The Institute of Education Sciences, within the U.S. Department of Education, heads up funding for projects based on cognition and learning.

Until the schools have discovered a viable method of instruction to help our children become successful learners, it is up to you, the parent or caretaker to understand what it takes for your child to learn.

Once the awareness is made, the true change can take place.

Once parents or caretakers observe their child having homework meltdowns, they may want to dive a bit deeper into the underlying causes.

So, what can you do to help your child?

By following these five steps, you can help your child learn and read easier and more efficiently. By doing so, your child will not have homework meltdowns.

Step 1: Determine the Underlying Causes of the Homework Meltdowns

When your child begins to melt down or shut down when homework begins, don't you get frustrated? Well, your child gets more frustrated than you do. Why? Because your child can't understand why homework is such a challenge for them.

Your child thinks along the lines you do when you ask them if the content of the homework was discussed in school. They wonder why they can't "get it" either. In frustration, anger and shame, they shutdown.

They can't put into words what the problem is or give you a "reason" why they are unable to complete the work at home after doing well in the classroom.

As a parent, its logical for you to think the teacher would have taught the homework content to your child before assigning it. The good news is that 99% of the time, your child's teacher does teach the material to your child. Yet, we still believe there is a gap between home and school.

As a result, most of us believe our child needs extra help. We reach for a tutor to help our child "learn" the content so homework will not be a battle. If you go for this route, as a parent, you need to look out for a few things to help you decide if your child needs more than a tutor.

You can choose to have your child tutored for specific academic areas of concern. If the tutoring is provided for a few sessions and your child is able to learn independently without the ongoing need of the tutor, then it is possible that lack of or poor instruction is the root cause.

However, if some brief tutoring does not solve the problem than this is a red flag that the problem is beyond poor instruction or not enough instruction. In other words, if you realize that your child always needs a tutor to "reintroduce" the material in different ways for success, than your child needs help.

What does that mean? What is the problem and can it be helped?

If homework meltdowns cannot be quickly resolved with tutoring then your child has weaknesses resulting from needing to learn in one specific type of environment given visual, auditory, tactile, etc.

Your child most likely relies heavily on one specific learning style. If the content is not introduced in this one preferred style, your child is lost.

However, your child does fine in the classroom because teachers use what is known as a multisensory approach to teaching. Multisensory instruction means that academic content is taught through speaking, touching, visual and movement. At least two or more of these methods are used within a multisensory instructional session.

We as parents do not recognize this approach or we are not given the materials to continue multisensory at home for homework sessions. We end up with the screaming young child or the angry, frustrated older student to help at home.

At the end of this report, I will give you some ideas of how to prevent and work through the homework sessions using multisensory approaches.

Parents, take note, your child can overcome this issue in as little as 12-24 weeks.

Let me now introduce you to how your child's brain processes. I will be using a term call cognitive skills. Cognitive skills is the term used to describe the individual learning styles that make up multisensory learning.

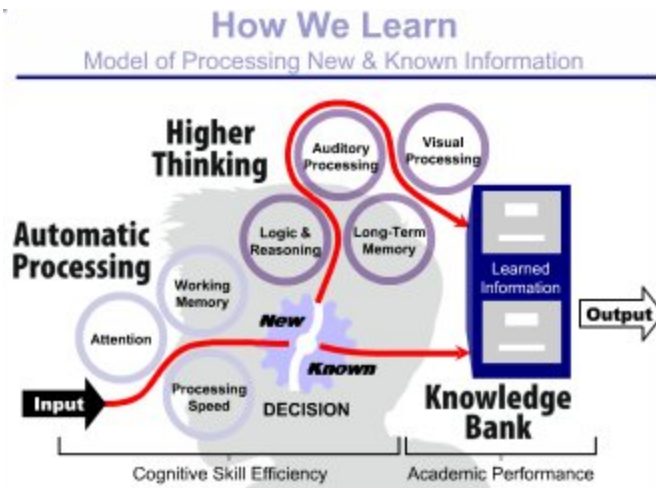
Step 2 will help you understand what your child uses when learning in their favorite learning style or when the teacher uses multisensory approaches.

Step 2: Understand the Cognitive Processing Skills Required for Learning

Take note: cognitive skills all work together to produce great results.

If, for example, a car has a bad transmission, then putting premium gasoline into the tank will not produce successful results.

Our brains have an active processing system which requires many cognitive skills to be strong at all times. This is how your child's brain learns, too.



- First, the brain requires attention and memory skills when attempting to receive information.
- As additional input is received, other learning skills are activated to assist in processing the data.
- Next, visual processing is needed for discerning and analyzing input.
- Additionally, auditory processing is used to review process and discriminate sounds.
- We cannot leave out logic and reasoning skills to focus on problem solving requests as in Math.

- Reading comprehension skills are integrated to deal with listening and reading activities.
- Finally, each skill will play a part in processing almost every input.

Therefore, the degree of strength in these individual learning skills will impact the ability of your child's brain to learn.

If a person's skills show some or several weak areas, then the overall learning process will not be accurate, fast or efficient.

Take a look at the table, on the following page, for a quick sampling of what your child may experience if their cognitive skills are weak.

This gives you an idea of why your child may have a meltdown during homework sessions.

Mental skill	Results if poorly developed
Attention	If attention skills are deficient, then the ability to stay on a task for long periods of time or ignore distractions would limit the ability of other mental skills. This can affect all areas work.
Working memory	If you cannot retain information long enough to properly handle that information, learning will suffer.
Processing speed	If the speed of processing is slow, then the information held in working memory may be lost before it can be used, requiring to start all over again.
Visual processing	If visual manipulation or visual imagery is poor then those tasks that require seeing in your head (math word problems, and comprehension, etc.) will suffer.
Long-term memory	If the abilities to store and retrieve information easily are poor, then wrong conclusions and answers will result.
Auditory processing	If blending, segmenting and sound analysis are poorly developed, then sounding out words when reading or spelling will be very difficult and result in errors.
Reasoning and logic	If these abilities are poor, then problem solving, math, and comprehension will be poor.
Comprehension	If comprehension is deficient, understanding and making sense of new information will suffer.

So how do you know if your child has weak cognitive skills? Read Step 3 for more information.

Step 3: Assess Which Cognitive Skills Need to be Strengthened

One way to objectively measure a person's strong points is through standardized testing. This type of testing is used by the schools when your child sits for state testing annually.

They are also the type of testing used by the school psychologist or private psychologists or neuropsychologists to determine how well a student is doing in academic subjects and how well their brain processes information.

The most common standardized testing approach is using achievement tests.

These tests measure how well a child is doing academic not how strong in their learning skills. For example, they measure your child's math, writing and reading skills.

Another popular choice is intelligence tests. These are also known as IQ tests. These tests measure the strengths of the underlying cognitive skills.

Unfortunately, intelligence tests provide an average intelligence score based on all the measures of the cognitive skills.

They will not give the individual measures of cognitive skills necessary for reading, math calculations or comprehension.

What you really need is a direct cognitive based assessment tool that will measure the necessary cognitive skills for learning.

In my programs, all the students are measured with an online standardized cognitive assessment that is non-academic.

Once you discover which cognitive skills are causing the homework meltdowns, creating a gap between school and home or learning challenges for your child, you need to strengthen these skills.

For example, the assessment will outline in what cognitive areas your child is performing at the level of similar aged students. The assessment will also identify where your child is performing above or below similar aged students.

Step 4 discusses options for strengthening cognitive skills. This next discussion is based on neuroplasticity. The definition of this term is based on the proven theory that our brains are "plastic" and able to be changed, even in structure.

Step 4: Explore How to Strengthen the Weak Learning Skills

Cognitive brain training is one of the fastest growing markets.

Studies prove intense; challenging procedures completed one-on-one will strengthen weak learning skills without any regression.

As a child progresses through a procedure, tasks are added requiring greater attention and forcing new skills to become automatic.

Research studies have shown a child will gain an average over 3.6 year's improvement in all deficient cognitive skills within 12 -24 weeks!

This type of training requires working with a certified brain trainer for 12 – 24 weeks. This is where we TRAIN the brain to strengthen skills, create and use new neuropathways.

The programs offer a variety of choices to work through to completion.

Your child can use online brain training software, in-person intensive training or a combination of both.

You, your child, and the certified trainer all have a role to play in this type of intervention.

The programs are non-academic in nature and the children enjoy themselves. The measurable results show great improvement but the children will notice the differences themselves without needing an assessment.

They can list one to several noticeable changes a week that contribute to an improved academic and social life.

ELS4KIDS offers programs offer a variety of choices for your family and your child will not feel overwhelmed with the program.

I will coach your child through to success even if your children is out-of-state.

Once your child has strengthened their cognitive skills, you then need to make sure the new skills are being used to prevent and eliminate homework meltdowns.

Step 5 discusses this important step in more detail.

Step 5: Integrate Academics into the Program

Now that your child's cognitive skills have been strengthened you need to make sure you and your child "see" the results in school.

It is one thing to "see" the results objectively through an assessment and a whole other ball game when it comes to your child performing in school at the measured results.

This is a very important aspect when you decide to have your child strengthen their cognitive skills.

There are programs all over the internet that have over 35 years of research to back them.

However, there are very few to none that offer that "extra" support after you are done with the program. This is where we TEACH how to use the new skills with existing academics.

ELS4KIDS is the only one on the market with a proven system that trains, teaches and transforms your child with ongoing support and coaching for yourself and your child.

We work with you and your child's school for better integration and transfer of new skills and strategies. This is where we help to Transform your child.

In fact, we are so convinced that our system is successful, we are applying for a federal grant with the US Department of Education to begin working with public schools to implement our system into the classroom.

Eventually, we hope to be partnering with key players and using our expertise to train the teachers and staff how to make this work for their classrooms.

Our hope is that ELS4KIDS will play a huge part in shifting the education paradigm of our country.

The Benefits Abound

Working with ELSK, Your Child Will

- be able to selectively choose what to pay attention to
- be able to divide attention amongst two or more things
- be able to pay attention for a sustained period of time
- learn to read or spell
- remember math facts through stronger memory skills
- complete assignments faster
- remember material and or directions
- increase and strengthen ability to comprehend and understand
- work less to achieve more
- complete homework in less time and independently (no more meltdowns!)
- improve in areas specifically related to their present weakness

The following page contains a chart we make available on our site relative to what specific behavior will be impacted by brain training. This chart specifies one of our tools called BrainWare Safari – an online brain training software program.

BrainWare Safari

Behaviors to Exercises Guide

	Ancient Logic & Reasoning	Arrow Point Bridge	Bear Shuffle	Cave Comparisons	Crocodile Recollection	Iguana Lookout	Jumping Jaguar Flash	Jungle Labyrinth	Llama Logic	Memory Mountain	Parrotting Colors	Piranha Pass	Rhythm Ribbet	Slithering Symbols	Sky Scanning	Tree Tic Tac Toe	Turtle Recall	Volcanic Patterns	Web Weaving	Whispering Waterfall		
Traces/stays within lines when coloring						X		X				X	X							X		Sensory Integration
Draws simple designs accurately						X		X							X					X		
Writes with appropriate spacing						X		X							X					X		
Computer mouse with ease & accuracy						X		X				X	X		X		X			X		
Knows right from left		X		X		X		X				X	X		X					X		
Skips/omit words when reading		X		X	X	X		X				X	X							X		Attention Skills
Sustains attention in routine situations		X	X		X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Maintains attention despite distractions		X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Pays attention to details			X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X		X	X						
Listens carefully/maintains eye contact													X	X	X						X	
Finishes tasks		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X				X		Memory Skills
Is organized		X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Remembers address, names and other basic facts		X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Remember information learned		X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Remembers to do things he or she asked to do													X		X						X	
Once he or she learns to do a task, remembers how to do it days or weeks later		X	X	X	X		X			X			X	X	X	X			X	X	X	Visual Processing
Remembers details of a story that was just read													X		X						X	
Remembers and carries out a series of instructions		X	X	X	X					X			X		X				X	X	X	
Copies accurately			X		X	X		X		X		X			X	X			X	X		
Does not make careless errors school work independently		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Understands instructions		X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	Thinking Skills
handles complex mental tasks w/o getting frustrated		X	X	X			X	X		X				X	X				X	X	X	
Completes tasks that require mental effort in the appropriate amount of time		X	X	X	X		X			X			X	X	X				X	X	X	
Learns from mistakes	X			X				X	X			X				X						
Plans ahead and uses forethought	X			X				X	X			X				X						
Uses good judgment	X			X				X	X			X				X						
Is good a finding solutions to problems	X			X				X	X			X				X						
Can predict the outcome of situations/stories	X			X				X	X	X		X				X						
Uses imagination and creativity	X			X				X	X			X				X						

We have children and adults on this program and they love the “video game” presentation of the program.

Similar to playing sports and fun games on Wii – this program provides for training your child’s brain to use the whole brain, create new neuropathways to remove any blockages, increase processing speed and more.

There are over 41 cognitive skills strengthened by using this program alone.

41 cognitive skills developed:

Attention Skills (6)

- Visual Sustained Attention
- Auditory Sustained Attention
- Visual Selective Attention
- Auditory Selective Attention
- Divided Attention
- Flexible Attention

Visual Processing Skills (9)

- Visual Discrimination
- Visual Figure Ground
- Visual Form Consistency
- Directionality
- Visual Span
- Visual Simultaneous Processing
- Visual Sequential Processing
- Visualization
- Visual Processing Speed

Auditory Processing Skills (3)

- Auditory Discrimination
- Auditory Sequential Processing
- Auditory Processing Speed

Sensory Integration Skills (5)

- Oculomotor Skills
- Visual-Motor Integration
- Auditory-Motor Integration
- Timing-Rhythm
- Visual-Auditory Integration

Memory Skills (10)

- Visual Short-Term Sensory Memory
- Auditory Short-Term Sensory Memory
- Visual Short-Term Immediate Memory
- Auditory Short-Term Immediate Memory
- Working Memory
- Visual Spatial Memory
- Long-Term Memory
- Visual Sequential Memory
- Auditory Sequential Memory
- Visual Simultaneous Memory

Thinking Skills (8)

- Logic
- Reasoning
- Planning
- Problem Solving
- Strategic Thinking
- Visual Thinking
- Conceptual Thinking
- Decision Speed

In Closing

If your child has homework meltdowns or difficulty learning which impacts self-esteem, school success and parent-child relationships then you should consider further investigation into cognitive brain training.

There are plenty of studies and research results to back up the programs. A child can compensate for only so long when trying to avoid weak learning skills.

Eventually, the child will run out of options. Help is available to your child through cognitive brain training and support to use the new neuropathways and strengthened cognitive skills.

By following the five steps outlined in this report, you can understand that homework meltdowns stem from learning challenges that are complex but manageable.

By completing a cognitive brain training program, your child's life will be changed forever.

If you are ready to understand why your child is having homework meltdowns, act now and [purchase ELSK's online cognitive assessment for only \\$29.97.](#)

[Here is a sample report](#) that you will receive once your child has completed the assessment.

Wishing you and your family happiness, well-being and Einstein wishes,

Colleen Bain

Colleen Bain, M.A.

P.S. I included a listing of the necessary cognitive skills for learning and a few articles about brain training for your further review. Remember, the school year and learning do not need to be stressful. We are here to help you!

Cognitive Skills Required for Successful Learning

1. Auditory Processing: to process sounds. The major underlying skill needed to learn to read and spell.
2. Auditory Discrimination: to hear differences in sounds such as loudness, pitch, duration, and phonemes.
3. Auditory Segmenting: to break apart words into their separate sounds.
4. Auditory Blending: to blend individual sounds to form words.
5. Auditory Analysis: to determine the number, sequence, and which sounds are within a word.
6. Auditory- Visual Association: to be able to link a sound with an image.
7. Comprehension: to understand words and concepts.
8. Divided Attention: to attend to and handle two or more tasks at one time. Such as: taking notes while listening, carrying totals while adding the next column. Required for handling tasks quickly as well as handling complex tasks.
9. Logic and Reasoning: to reason, plan, and think.
10. Long Term Memory: to retrieve past information
11. Math Computations: to do math calculations such as adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing.
12. Processing Speed: the speed which the brain processes information.
13. Saccadic Fixation: to move the eyes accurately and quickly from one point to another.
14. Selective Attention: to stay on task even when distraction is present.
15. Sensory-Motor Integration: to have the sensory skills work well with the motor skills - such as eye-hand coordination
16. Sequential Processing: to process chunks of information that are received one after another
17. Simultaneous Processing: to process chunks of information that are received all at once
18. Sustained Attention: to be able to stay on task.
19. Visual Discrimination: to see differences in size, color, shape, distance, and orientation of objects.
20. Visual Processing: to process and make use of visual images.

21. Visual Manipulation: to flip, rotate, move, change color, etc. objects and images in one's mind
22. Visualization: to create mental images or pictures.
23. Visual Span: to see more/wider in a single look.
24. Working Memory: Holding information in your memory while deciding what to do with it.

Reading Specific Skills:

- Memory (ability to remember the sound-symbol relationship)
- Sound Segmenting (ability to separate or unglue sounds)
- Sound Blending (ability to put together sounds to form words)
- Auditory Analysis (ability to manipulate or analyze small changes in groups of sounds)
- Processing Speed (ability to process information quickly)
- Working Memory (ability to retain incoming information and process it quickly and properly)
- Attention (ability to stay on the given task in spite of distraction)
- Visualization (ability to create and use mental images)
- Reading Fluidity (ability to read smoothly)
- Logic and Reasoning (ability to nonverbally reason and solve problems)

"The Five Types of Brain Training" by Colleen Bain

In past articles, we discussed what brain training is considered to be in depth. We stated that brain training consists of specific exercises targeted at improving cognitive skills. The programs can be in-person or online and are usually intensive requiring the student to make their training a priority in their life.

Brain training is considered to be only one part of keeping your brain healthy. Your brain also requires good nutrition, exercise, stress management and mental stimulation (Fernandez & Goldberg, 2009).

Within the mental stimulation, your brain prospers from being mentally challenged in a diverse manner. It is also known that our brains can be trained beyond just mental stimulation to help strengthen our ability to learn.

Brain training of this sort is only one way of training your brain. Did you know that? If not, let me explain. There are five types of brain training recognized by neuropsychologists today. They are cognitive therapy, meditation, biofeedback, computer-based brain training software and in-person one-on-one brain training.

Cognitive therapy is a special type of talk therapy that combines strategies and skill to help the client train their brain to think in a better supportive manner. Science will tell you if you think or behave in a certain manner over and over again, you are training your brain to respond in a preset manner. If a client comes to therapy for help with weight loss, for example, cognitive therapists can help the client change the way they think about their weight loss program. Instead of always thinking they will not be successful or that they are hungry and must eat, they will be trained to restate that they can and will be successful in time and that they can choose not to eat (Fernandez & Goldberg, 2009). This type of therapy can work for almost any type of behavior or emotional issue.

Meditation can help to train the brain through focusing on certain thoughts or mantras. As a result, cognitive skills for attention are being strengthened. Meditation can also help with emotions and behavior is the mantra being stated over and over is a positive statement. Add in a visual to support the positive, self-empowering statement and you will see changes in time.

Biofeedback can measure in graphs and visual feedback heart-rate and more to help a client self-adjust in the areas that need to be strengthened. Neurofeedback is considered to be within biofeedback. It uses Electroencephalography (EEG) which measure brain waves in real-time and usually visually to a clinician. The clinician will interpret and monitor the client to help self-adjust. Some biofeedback centers are geared to children where they use computer monitors disguised as video games. The child is connected via lobes/pads to their head to measure brain waves. As the child attends while relaxing, they game piece progresses and plays. The clinician is next to the child interpreting the data to drive the level of intensity for interaction and brain wave adjustment.

Computer-based software is everything from Nintendo's brain age to the programs that are available to clinicians through certification and licensing. Software programs have research and case studies to back up their claims and are primarily used to target a specific cognitive skill or for overall brain integration and improvement. The key for software programs is to ensure that the skill trained transfers over to everyday living and not just for areas requiring that skill. If a client is trained on using numbers to strengthen memory than you better be sure the client can remember well everywhere and not just when being asked about numbers.

In-person brain training uses a specific set of exercises implemented in a structured approach to help the student meet success. The in-person training is very intensive and like the software based programs can be individualized and supplemented to help every client with their unique needs. Students prefer in-person training because they are with a trainer or coach and can interact with live feedback and explanation when necessary.

The good news is that neuroscience has proved without a doubt that our brains can and do continue to change, even in structure, and create new neuropathways. So, where a diagnosis label may never disappear, your child can build new neuropathways to process around the existing processing difficulties within their brain. The best way to understand your child's learning difficulties is to asses using the [Gibson Online Cognitive Assessment](#).

Source for data: SharpBrains Guide to Fitness, 2009

[Blessings and Brain Power,](#)

Colleen

"Why is My Child Having Trouble Learning and Reading?"

by Colleen Bain

Over the last week I have had the pleasure of consulting with a family in Arizona. We have gone back and forth through email helping one another to identify and better understand the problem and then providing a solution. The family agreed to allow me to publish a snapshot to help other families relate and understand their child's difficulties. The family will be able to zero in on the true weak skills once they have their child [assessed online](#). However, during my consults, prior to assessments, we will go into detail around the possible causes and solutions.

Problem: Teachers were saying he wasn't understanding or comprehending their instruction.

Understand the problem: This can be a result of your child's low auditory memory and/or auditory analysis skills. Additionally the attention skill contains divided attention so either a combination or one of the skills needs to be strengthened. For example, If your son was reading his assignment (paper on his desk) and his teacher was giving instructions he did not capture the verbal instructions from the teacher as his auditory memory was weak - hence the teacher's stating he was unable to understand the directions. Since the teachers did not state that your son cannot follow directions, I would learn more towards auditory memory and divided attention instead of just an auditory sequential processing issue. A combination of the above weak skills will negatively impact processing speed as your son's brain needs to slow down to figure out the correct output per the teacher's request. You should see your son's processing speed pick up once the problem skill area(s) are strengthened.

Problem: We would read 1 hour a day through second grade even though his teachers recommended 20 min yet he was tested for reading at 1.5 when entering 3rd grade - he could say and spell all 83 phonograms but couldn't apply the rules he learned when writing. For example, he would write really in a sentence and then the very next sentence would write it reely.

Understand the problem: This is a combination of auditory memory, visual and auditory processing that is preventing your son from transferring his learned phonograms into practice. By using a research based program like [Master the Code](#), your son will continue to receive cognitive strengthening. The program uses mnemonics (pictures for memory) to assist in helping the students remember visually and auditorily while learning how to use codes (letters) and the sounds they make /sounds and how to spell them.

Problem: He was for ever getting his b's, d's, q's and p's mixed up.

Understand the problem: When we see the children confusing these letters it is about spatial relationships and directionality. We also look into visual processing for spatial aspect along with the logic and reasoning skills which include spatial relationships. Along with exercises to strengthen the skills needed to allow your son to write these correctly is the necessity to test it out and you can easily do this with [eye tracking sheets](#) that you can make up yourself.

This one chart requires the child to track for the alphabet throughout the page but you can simply ask your son to find only "p" b, q d on the sheet or any page of a newspaper, etc.

Problem: His writing is improving but my son was lost.

Understand the problem: Writing provides fluidity and directionality for the brain's processing. Since your son was having trouble with writing you are correct in stating that there are processing concerns. Eye hand coordination and other skills need to be strong, too. Cursive writing promotes fluidity in the processing of the brain and we as required to keep our hands (motor) moving in the correct (left to right) direction as we write. If your son can write in cursive that is a good thing, in my opinion.

Problem: My son couldn't even begin to think of a topic sentence and support--that just didn't make sense to him.

Understand the problem: This may be coming from your son's inability to visualize along with the other possible weak skills discussed above. For your son to create a topic sentence, regardless of what a topic sentence is, he must be able to visualize and organize a fluid story. One that has a beginning, middle and end. Once his skills are strengthened this may be an area that needs further intervention to transfer over into school. I am launching online writing programs over the next two weeks that allows your child to learn what a topic sentence is and how to write a paragraph. I also have essay writing with a thesis and then we have a program where the children read a book of choice and then our program takes them through writing about the book with prompts, etc.

I hope you enjoyed reading the above consult. This consult consisted of several detailed email exchanges between me and the family. If you know of anyone who may benefit from such a consult, they can easily [contact me](#).

Blessings and Brain Power,

Colleen



About Colleen Bain, M. A.

Colleen Bain is the creator of The Student Transformation System, is CEO and founder of Enhanced Learning Skills for Kids, LLC.

She is a contributing author in the soon to be released book, [Overcomers, Inc.](#) and existing eBook, [Overcoming Adversity with Grace](#); a licensed cognitive brain training expert; a licensed special educator in the state of New Jersey; an award-winning professional and dedicated wife and mom to two children.

Colleen is a highly results oriented neurocognitive brain trainer and coach who works with children ages 6-18 struggling to learn or read easier who are ready to unlock their potential and bridge the gap to becoming independent lifelong learners.

Her unique Student Transformation System consists of programs designed to help you achieve the best results you desire for your child in the most efficient, cost-effective way possible.

She helps parents or caretakers feel secure through the program. Their concerns are met with compassion and quality results.

Colleen's bigger hope is to use her work and research to be an important contributor in shifting the education paradigm of our country.