

DYSLEXIA SUPERHEROES



We all have times where we might struggle in the classroom.

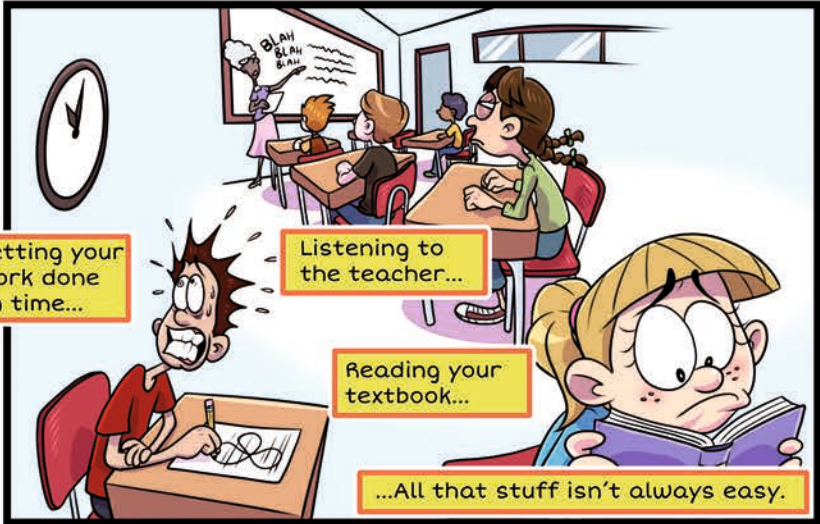


Getting your work done on time...

Listening to the teacher...

Reading your textbook...

...All that stuff isn't always easy.



You don't need to have a learning difference, like dyslexia, to find these things hard.



But if you DO have something like dyslexia...



Some of these struggles can happen a lot more frequently...



...as if there's some sort of villain making everything worse!

It can feel like your time in exams...



...is being stolen away.



Or like someone is messing with the words you're trying to read.

Or causing you to heat-up and get stressed, so you don't think straight.



Or whispering negative thoughts into your ear while stealing your positive ones.



This is **Mr Dyspicibilia**. He represents all the struggles with your class and school work.



He thrives on negative thoughts in your mind. The more stupid and hopeless you feel, the more powerful he gets, (like with any super villain).



But with every villain, there is a way to stop them.

Meet our **three heroes of your mind!**



People with dyslexia have the potential to overcome any difficulty through the power of persistence and determination.



PERSISTO represents that persistence.

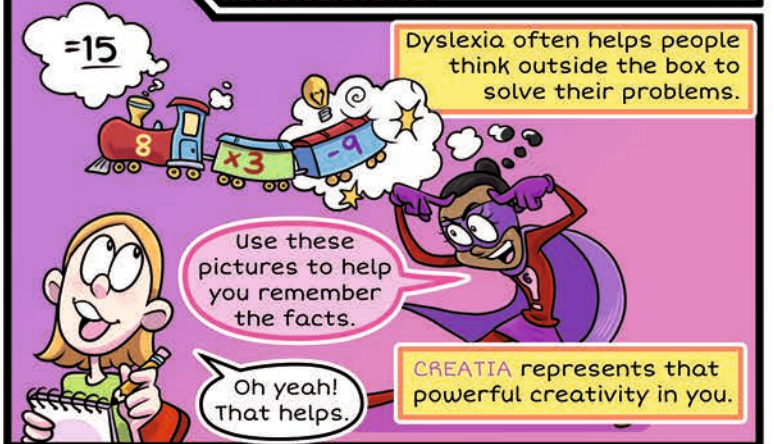
My 'MIND BLOCK'!

People with dyslexia can achieve such heights when they remember to believe in themselves.



WILLFORCE is that encouragement that fuels your willpower.

Dyslexia often helps people think outside the box to solve their problems.



Use these pictures to help you remember the facts.

CREATIA represents that powerful creativity in you.

Together, they can beat anything Mr Dyspicibilia can do.

Using these mind-heroes just helps you release the potential you have.



In other words, these Superheroes can help you unlock your Superpower.

PERSISTO

Hero of your Determination and Strength!



This homework's really hard.

Oh? Struggling with homework can create some delicious negativity.

Rub Rub!

CAN'T FOOL HOPE!

Have some more!!

Not so fast, Mr D.

Persisto?

Keep at it, Ryan. I'll stop this creep's negativity from reaching you.

LOSER NEVER!

Yeah, I'll complete this homework no matter what!

But persistent as you are...

...it doesn't make the homework any easier.

IMPOSSIBLE!

It's too hard I can't do this.

I wonder how long he'll last?

Yes you can! Don't worry.

When we're stuck with something, it's okay to ask for help...

So Willforce encourages Ryan to ask his mum for help with the homework and she does.

GIVE UP!

This helps Persisto overcome the negativity much more effectively.

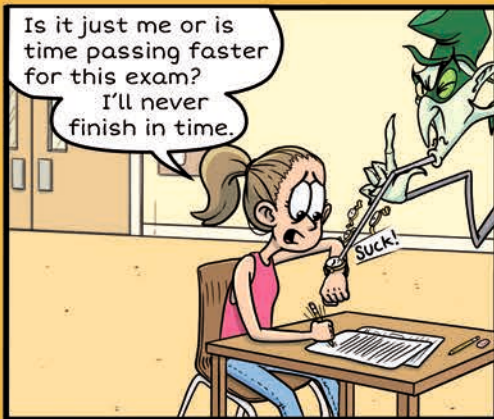
Wow! I did much better than I ever thought I could!

Thanks, Willforce. Sometimes persistence alone isn't enough.

It takes courage and encouragement too. Arf!

Willforce

Your hero of Motivation & Willpower



Is it just me or is time passing faster for this exam? I'll never finish in time.

Suck!



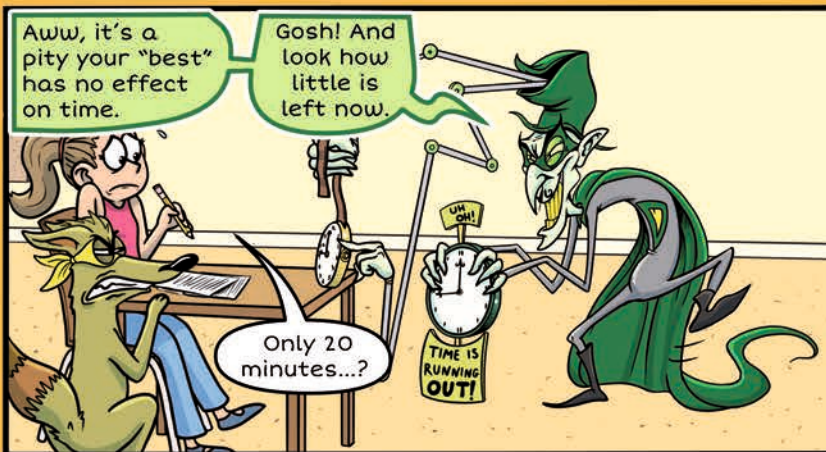
But maybe you CAN, Jenna. Arf!

You mean that, Willforce?



Sure! Just do your best with whatever time is left.

That makes me feel better.

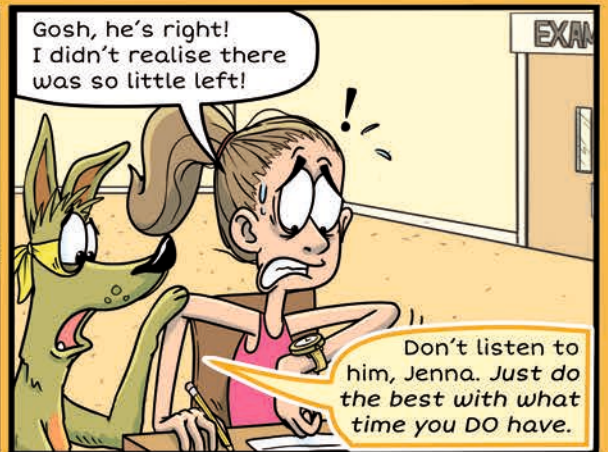


Aww, it's a pity your "best" has no effect on time.

Gosh! And look how little is left now.

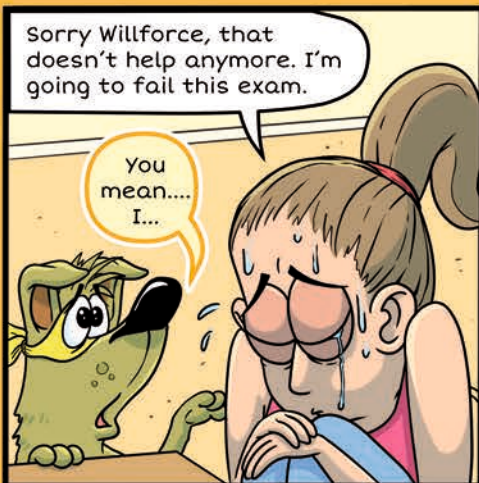
Only 20 minutes...?

UH OH!
TIME IS RUNNING OUT!



Gosh, he's right! I didn't realise there was so little left!

Don't listen to him, Jenna. Just do the best with what time you DO have.



Sorry Willforce, that doesn't help anymore. I'm going to fail this exam.

You mean.... I...



I wasn't able to help her. I'm no help to anyone.

By trying to encourage her, I just made things worse.



Nonsense, Willforce. It was a wonderful encouragement!

Don't worry about what Time you have left.
Mr Stinky! → Mr Digging!
Do your BEST with what Time You DO Have



This picture-card can remind her of it in a fun, positive way.

Creatia! You've made my advice more effective.

Haha! Thanks Willforce. This helps me not take things too seriously and stops me from getting so worked up.

Shrink

Helloooo?? I'm over here! Notice me please!

LOOK AT ME!!

NOTICE ME PLEASE

Wait, am I shrinking?!

CREATIA

HERO OF YOUR IMAGINATION & CREATIVE THINKING



Sigh This math homework is so boring, and the questions are difficult for me to read.

I'd much rather be playing computer games...

Um, but how? I don't have any programmers or software developers.

MATH KNIGHT +17 POINTS

Why not make a computer game OUT OF your homework then?

Don't need 'em. We're just designing it. Use paper & coloured pens.

You can use your favourite games and characters as inspiration.

Anything goes - it's your imagination!

Awesome! This sounds fun.

UH OH...

10 minutes in...

The homework's still hard to read, so this is still boring.

what if I had apples

You're right. I guess this was a stupid idea.

Only one way to find out. See it through to the end!

Is it? Or is it at least better than doing it the usual way?

Hey, you're right!

Later still...

I still haven't figured out how I'm going to make this work.

Maybe the idea's too complicated.

Have I made things worse?

PRESSURE

Yeah, may as well! Let's see where this goes.

The finished result. It ended up being so enjoyable and helpful for Madison that she's going to expand it with next week's Math homework!

GAME IDEA

SHOOT OR SAVE THE APPLE MINIONS To solve the PUZZLES

10 apples = 17 points

NEW QUESTION UNLOCKED!

8 apples

15 apples

Complete all 9 questions to defeat the BOSS.

WHO IS YOUR SUPERHERO?



These are the three heroes WE'VE made, as the symbols of how you can overcome any barrier at school – dyslexia or otherwise.



But hundreds of children, young and old, have made their OWN heroes to inspire them in class.

Check out this one called **Confidence Cally**.

She has the power to help people overcome struggles with maths tests.



Or **Time Downer**, with the power to block English Literature from getting too pressurising.

Or what about **Slime**, here. This sticky saviour has the power to stick his concentration to any given task.



He also has a different tentacle for each different task, allowing him to focus better.

This cool hero is pretty hot.



It can freeze time and burn distractions!

What about **Confidence Millie**, whose pen laser can stop you being scared of reading out loud?



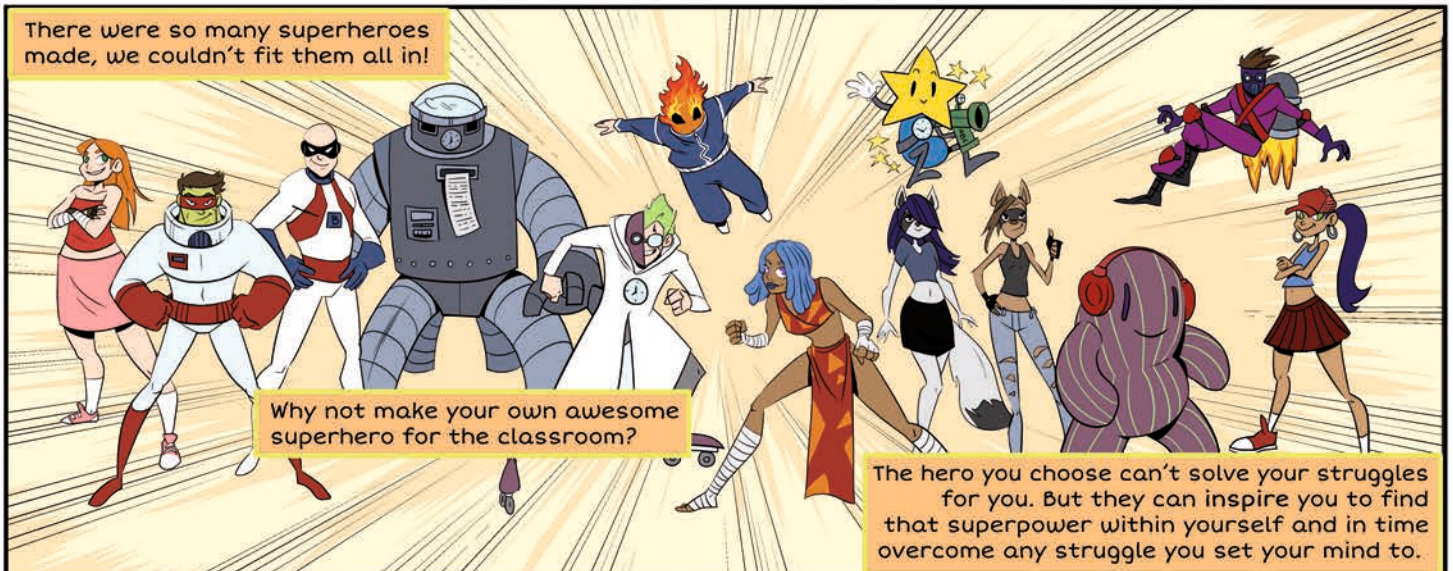
Or **Super Sam**, who encourages you to work in a team or group, to make you stronger.

Here's the **Disbelief Destroyer**, who sucks out your disbelief when you don't believe in yourself – and can fire positivity beams.



And here's the **Time Stopper Dragon**, whose fire has the power to stop time!

There were so many superheroes made, we couldn't fit them all in!



Why not make your own awesome superhero for the classroom?

The hero you choose can't solve your struggles for you. But they can inspire you to find that superpower within yourself and in time overcome any struggle you set your mind to.

This comic was developed by Dekko Comics as part of a Dyslexia and Inclusive Practice Teachers' pack for schools in Scotland about Dyslexia Scotland's Ambassador Outreach Programme ('Mission Superheroes'). This was supported by the Scottish Government from 2018 to 2019. Workshops were run for teachers, parents and P4-7 pupils in 4 local authorities: East Dunbartonshire, Falkirk, Glasgow and South Lanarkshire. Members of the Addressing Dyslexia Toolkit working group ran the Teachers' workshops, Dyslexia Scotland's Ambassador Paul McNeill ran the Parents' workshops and Dyslexia Scotland Ambassadors Paul McNeill and Rossie Stone delivered the 'Mission Superheroes' workshops. Our sincere thanks go to everyone who made this programme possible, especially Paul McNeill and Rossie Stone.

For further details about dyslexia and where to go for support, visit:

- www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk (Dyslexia Scotland's main website)
- www.addressingdyslexia.org (an online Toolkit for teachers)
- www.unwrapped.dyslexiascotland.org.uk (a website for dyslexic children and young people aged 8-18 years)

