

orton gillingham method training

Orton Gillingham method training is an essential approach for educators and specialists dedicated to teaching students with dyslexia and other reading difficulties. This structured, multisensory method has its roots in the early 20th century, developed by Dr. Samuel Orton and Anna Gillingham. The training equips educators with the tools and strategies to effectively address the diverse needs of learners, allowing them to build strong foundational skills in reading, writing, and spelling.

Understanding the Orton Gillingham Method

The Orton Gillingham method is a comprehensive instructional approach designed specifically for students with language-based learning disabilities. It emphasizes the following principles:

1. Multisensory Learning

The Orton Gillingham method incorporates visual, auditory, and kinesthetic elements to facilitate learning. This approach engages multiple senses to help solidify understanding and retention.

- Visual: Use of color-coded materials, charts, and written instructions.
- Auditory: Phoneme pronunciation, listening to sounds, and verbal repetition.
- Kinesthetic: Incorporating movement through writing in sand, using letter tiles, or manipulating objects.

2. Structured and Sequential Instruction

The instruction is systematic, moving from simple to complex. This means that learners first grasp basic concepts before progressing to more advanced skills.

- Start with phonemic awareness.
- Introduce phonics and decoding gradually.
- Move on to vocabulary and comprehension strategies.

3. Individualized Approach

Each student receives tailored instruction based on their unique needs and learning pace. This personalization is critical for effectively addressing

the challenges faced by students with dyslexia.

- Assess each student's strengths and weaknesses.
- Develop individualized learning plans that cater to their specific needs.
- Regularly monitor progress and adapt instruction as necessary.

Components of Orton Gillingham Method Training

The training program for educators encompasses various components designed to enhance their understanding and application of the method.

1. Theoretical Foundations

Educators learn about the history and development of the Orton Gillingham method, including its psychological and linguistic underpinnings.

- Study of dyslexia and other learning disabilities.
- Understanding the cognitive processes involved in reading.
- Familiarization with language development theories.

2. Practical Strategies and Techniques

Participants engage in hands-on workshops where they practice methods and strategies that can be directly applied in the classroom.

- Phonemic Awareness Activities: Activities to develop sound recognition and manipulation.
- Phonics Instruction: Techniques for teaching letter-sound relationships and decoding.
- Spelling Strategies: Methods for teaching spelling rules and patterns.

3. Assessment and Progress Monitoring

Training includes instruction on how to assess student progress and adapt teaching strategies accordingly.

- Screening Tools: Learn to use screening assessments to identify students at risk.
- Progress Monitoring: Implement ongoing assessments to track student growth.
- Data-Driven Decision Making: Use data to inform instructional changes and interventions.

Benefits of Orton Gillingham Method Training

Investing in Orton Gillingham method training offers numerous benefits for educators and their students.

1. Enhanced Teaching Skills

Educators become more adept at recognizing and addressing the unique needs of students with learning difficulties.

- Gain confidence in implementing evidence-based practices.
- Develop a toolkit of strategies for diverse learning styles.

2. Improved Student Outcomes

With properly trained educators, students with dyslexia are more likely to achieve significant academic progress.

- Higher reading proficiency rates.
- Improved writing and spelling abilities.
- Increased self-esteem and motivation to learn.

3. Supportive Learning Environment

The training fosters a supportive and understanding atmosphere where students feel safe to express their challenges.

- Cultivate a growth mindset among students.
- Implement strategies that promote resilience and perseverance.

How to Obtain Orton Gillingham Method Training

For educators interested in pursuing Orton Gillingham method training, there are several avenues available:

1. Certification Programs

Many organizations offer certification programs that provide comprehensive training in the Orton Gillingham approach. These programs typically include:

- A combination of theoretical coursework and practical application.
- Observational opportunities in real classroom settings.
- Supervised teaching experiences.

2. Workshops and Seminars

Shorter workshops and seminars can provide valuable insights into specific aspects of the Orton Gillingham method, including:

- Focused sessions on phonics or spelling.
- Techniques for integrating multisensory instruction into the curriculum.

3. Online Training Options

With the rise of digital learning, many institutions offer online training modules that allow educators to learn at their own pace.

- Flexibility to fit training into busy schedules.
- Access to a wide range of resources and materials.

Challenges in Implementing the Orton Gillingham Method

While the Orton Gillingham method has proven effective, there are challenges that educators may face when implementing it in their classrooms.

1. Time Constraints

Teachers often have limited time to cover a wide range of subjects and may struggle to fit in the intensive instruction required by the Orton Gillingham method.

- Develop a structured lesson plan that incorporates OG techniques.
- Use small group instruction for targeted learning.

2. Resource Availability

Access to appropriate materials and resources can be a barrier to effective implementation.

- Seek funding or grants for multisensory materials.

- Collaborate with other educators to share resources.

3. Resistance to Change

Some educators may be hesitant to adopt new teaching strategies, especially if they are accustomed to traditional methods.

- Provide professional development opportunities to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Orton Gillingham method.
- Foster a collaborative environment where educators can share successes and challenges.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Orton Gillingham method training is a valuable investment for educators committed to enhancing the literacy skills of students with learning disabilities. By employing multisensory, structured, and individualized instruction, educators can significantly improve student outcomes and foster a more inclusive learning environment. As more educators embrace this effective approach, the potential for transforming the lives of students with dyslexia continues to grow, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to succeed in their educational journey.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Orton-Gillingham method?

The Orton-Gillingham method is a structured, multisensory approach to teaching reading and writing, specifically designed for individuals with dyslexia and other language-based learning disabilities.

Who can benefit from Orton-Gillingham method training?

Students with dyslexia, struggling readers, and individuals with language processing issues can benefit significantly from Orton-Gillingham method training.

Is Orton-Gillingham training only for teachers?

No, while it is primarily designed for educators, parents, and tutors can also undergo training to effectively support children using the Orton-Gillingham approach.

What are the key components of the Orton-Gillingham method?

The key components include explicit instruction, systematic phonics, multisensory techniques, and individualized learning tailored to each student's needs.

How long does Orton-Gillingham training typically take?

Training duration can vary; basic training may take a few days, while comprehensive certification programs can last several weeks or months, depending on the level of expertise desired.

Are there any specific certifications for Orton-Gillingham training?

Yes, several organizations offer certification programs, such as the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators (AOGPE) and the International Dyslexia Association (IDA).

Can the Orton-Gillingham method be adapted for online learning?

Yes, the Orton-Gillingham method can be adapted for online learning using digital tools and resources, allowing instructors to maintain a multisensory approach remotely.

What is the importance of multisensory learning in the Orton-Gillingham method?

Multisensory learning is crucial as it engages multiple senses, reinforcing connections in the brain and helping students better understand and retain information.

How can I find Orton-Gillingham training programs?

You can find Orton-Gillingham training programs through educational institutions, dyslexia organizations, and specialized training centers that offer courses and certifications.

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