

# Literacy

The ability to read accurately and spell correctly is essential for succeeding at school. Difficulties in these areas affect all aspects of the school curriculum.

*Children identified with reading difficulties have been found to be less motivated to read, think they are less capable of reading than others, get less practice reading and consequently they can fall further and further behind their peers academically. (Catts 1991)*

## **Assessment by a Speech Pathologist:**

Assessment reveals these children have difficulty with:

- **phonological awareness** (i.e. the knowledge that words can be broken down into smaller parts and that these parts can be moved around to create new words)  
and / or
- **oral (spoken) language development.**

Speech pathologists therefore can focus treatment on both oral (spoken) language development and phonological awareness development.

Due to the close relationship between phonological awareness skills and literacy, deficits in this area have been reliably linked to early reading and spelling difficulties (Catts, 1991). In fact, a relationship appears to exist between phonological awareness deficits and reading accuracy (reading aloud) and spelling but not reading comprehension (Gillon & Dodd, 1995).

Speech Pathologists' training in phonetics, phonology, and metalinguistic skills provide them with the most appropriate background for treating children with these difficulties.

*Research shows Speech Pathology helps in many cases.*

## *Recent research suggests that:*

- ♦ **children at risk for reading difficulties can be identified in Pre-school, before they experience “failure” in their first attempts at learning to read.**
- ♦ **in many cases, the roots of these children's reading difficulties**

## *What to do:*

- **If you are concerned about your child's oral language and/or reading and spelling, do not delay in contacting us at Tyquin group Speech Pathology on 3399 8028.**

## About Tyquin group

Tyquin group is a professional clinic containing a practice of Speech Pathology and a Reading Clinic .

As speech pathologists, we are working toward helping the 14% of Australians that have a communication disability. In order to do this we actively promote not only our practice but the profession as a whole.

Language and Communication sciences over recent years have made enormous advances. Unfortunately there is little awareness of the large and diverse role that Speech Pathologists can play in the support and education of our young learning children.

In our Reading Clinic, we aim to help poor readers when other attempts have failed. We willingly explore the best technology on offer anywhere in the world. We also develop techniques to use in concert with this technology in order to achieve the most effective results.

Philosophically we strive to achieve results quickly. Though this is sometimes ambitious and not always possible, we believe that it is a worthy goal.

Tyquin group invites you to regard us as a point of contact for further information about any queries you may have.

**Tyquin group**  
Speech Pathology  
Reading Clinic

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Speech Pathology  
Reading Clinic