

**Dyslexia Pocketbook [2<sup>nd</sup> Ed], Julie Bennett, Published by Teachers Pocketbooks ISBN 978-1 906610647.**

Well, how refreshing! It may be because it is pocket size but what a joy to pick up a book that gets straight to the point. From the moment you open the Dyslexia Pocketbook it is crammed with useful information. Not only that, I am actually smiling by page 4 where Julie welcomes the need for clarity of the term dyslexia. I totally agree. In order to dispel the myth surrounding dyslexia and ensure we appropriately meet the needs of the dyslexic learner we need a common definition.

It is the element of appropriate provision that this little gem is seeking to provide. It certainly does this for the non-specialist wanting an accessible way to 'gen-up' in dyslexia. The Dyslexia Pocketbook addresses some of the key areas such as self esteem, teaching and practical strategies to meet the needs of a learner with dyslexia. It does not pretend to have all the answers, but it certainly addresses enough considering its size. Skip to the back where a few 'Further Resources' are included. I do feel that one book, amongst others, to add to the next edition of the Pocketbook is 'Teaching Literacy to Learners with Dyslexia' by Kelly, K and Phillips, S (2011)

There is a lovely flow to the Pocketbook and I like the way Julie develops the readers' empathy before explaining the strategies. Her writing style cleverly makes the strategies appropriate for all ages of learner. The simple graphics mirroring the vocabulary add a level of pleasure when reading. This is further enhanced by the analogies she relates. Lots of old favourites are explained in Teaching tools and Tips as well as including some recently developed methods in 'Current Approaches'. The level of prestige given to multisensory teaching and the depth of explanation is heartening.

Just as the title implies, the handy Pocketbook charmingly provides a selection of simple strategies to enable the busy teacher and teaching assistant to meet the needs of the dyslexic learner in their classroom.

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