

Hello, my name is Nicholas Dawley. I am in fourth grade at Mohegan Elementary School in Montville. I was diagnosed moderately dyslexic last year after my mom brought me to the Yale Child Study Center for testing. I had already done most of the same testing by my school because my mom asked them too. My mom knew there had to be a reason I was struggling in school so she paid for my testing at Yale. It took my mom my entire 2nd and 3rd grade years from when she first started telling my school about her concerns with my learning until I actually got services in place, you know it as an IEP.

There are many kids in my grade who have a hard time reading like me. Kids would be better at reading if there was a test at the beginning of our school years to find out who is dyslexic and learns differently from others. I'd like to say that I hope in time kids and their families don't have to struggle like I have for so long in order to get the help they need in school. I thank my mom because she knew I was struggling long ago while the school kept telling her they do not test until 3rd grade and not to worry, that I would catch up. Maybe my teachers need some training about kids who learn like me. That waiting to test and continue to let kids struggle is not a good idea.

Thank you for listening, Nicholas Dawley