

## Specialized Training:

### William R. Stixrud, PH.D. Tutoring Services and Lecture Series:

**Strategies That Work Core Training Program** – Tutoring training program providing an understanding of educational disabilities and tutoring techniques to help students with learning disabilities, learning style differences, and ADHD

**Advanced Mentoring Program** – Program of tutoring training and mentoring by very experienced tutors and special education teachers

**Lecture:** Dr. William R. Stixrud, Ph.D. - Clinical Neuropsychologist - ***Stretching Kids Without Breaking Them: Stress-Free Ways of Promoting Development***

### ASDEC Atlantic Seaboard Dyslexia Education Center & Sienna School:

**Written Language and the LD Student** – 7 hour workshop modeling multisensory strategies for addressing the structure of written language taught by ASDEC Staff & Siena School Faculty

**Multisensory Mathematics with Manipulatives** – 7 hour workshop training in the nationally recognized program of concept-based, hands-on strategies for teaching mathematics to all students at all levels; training included applying Orton-Gillingham methods to strategies advocated by the National Math panel and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

### Sienna School Educational Workshop and Lecture Series:

Dr. Martha Denckla, Kennedy Krieger Institute, research scientist and Professor of Neurology, Pediatrics and Psychiatry: ***Teaching Boys and Girls with ADHD*** – Lecture and discussion regarding the ways students with ADHD learn differently and how these differences can be addressed, how girls with ADHD differ from boys with ADHD in academic, social-emotional and neurobiological features and executive behaviors.

## Background and Experience:

During my 25 year career, as a college educated design and project management professional I have developed skills which I believe are crucial to successful tutoring. The most important of these are the ability to build trusting relationships with people from a wide variety of backgrounds, to manage schedules and to communicate ideas effectively. In teaching at the George Washington University Center for Career Education and Workshops, I developed a sense of how individuals often learn in different ways and how some require unique strategies in order to obtain new skills. Over recent years, I have come to view tutoring as a natural extension of the teaching and mentoring I have done in my career as well as at home.

My most valuable experience in teaching, *including working with learning differences*, has come from guiding my own two children to become confident, responsible and successful students. (Now in 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades) My son in particular, has inspired me to learn everything I can to help students who struggle. He has taught me that traditional classroom settings and learning programs may not serve all children well. For some children, just recognizing individual learning patterns and guiding them in a way that allows them to become successful students, rather than experiencing repeated frustration and failure, can make all the difference. I firmly believe that the confidence in oneself gained from a little success can go a long way in jumpstarting a meaningful, lifelong path of learning.

My experience includes working with students struggling with the challenges presented by *ADHD, Dyslexia, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, and anxiety*. As the parent of a child with multiple learning disabilities, I understand the day to day struggle of not only the student, but the parents and siblings as well. I am familiar with the process of having a child evaluated for a learning disability through the school system and/or private testing as well as the written analysis and recommendations presented in a neuropsychological evaluation report. I understand well the effort and time involved in setting up and maintaining an *Individualized Education Plan (IEP)* or *504 plan* with a child's school team. I understand, from experience, how a tutor can be an invaluable link in the support system for your child.

# Individual Tutoring & Small Group Workshops

For  
Elementary & Middle School  
Students



**Lisa Skooglund  
Educational Tutor**

**Washington, DC Area**

## **One on One Tutoring:**

As adults, we know that each of us is better at some things than others. Yet, throughout their school years, students are expected to be good at *everything*. When a child's abilities are challenged in one or several areas, the threat of failure can become a daily experience. Brain science tells us it takes repeated successful experiences to undo the negative feelings associated with only a few failures. Identifying individual learning styles and finding learning strategies that work for a particular child are the keys to acquiring those repeated successful experiences. Individual tutoring can help a child understand that, with the right tools, he or she *can* succeed!

**Scheduling:** Sessions are 50 minutes. As consistency is helpful in acquiring new skills, it is strongly encouraged that tutoring consist of two sessions per week.

**Fees:** \$55.00 per session

**Availability:** Weekday afternoons or Weekends

**Location:** In your home, school, or library in Northwest DC area or in my home in the Glover Park neighborhood.

## **Organizational Skills and Homework Mastery**

Staying organized and learning to prioritize and plan ahead do not often come naturally. These are learned skills and they take practice! Learning to think strategically about how to get homework done on time, as well as how and when to get help with assignments are skills essential to success.



## **Composition**

Writing develops the ability to think clearly, to organize thoughts and articulate ideas. It requires planning, knowledge of grammar, and sustained effort. Learning how to break writing assignments into steps teaches the *process* of writing.

## **Spelling**

Difficulty with spelling is hard to hide and can lead quickly to self-doubt. Spelling problems may arise for any number of reasons. Many of the strategies for addressing spelling issues go hand in hand with those that enhance reading skills.

## **Reading Skills**

### ***Decoding***

Decoding is a fundamental skill in learning to read and in sustaining continued development in reading, spelling and writing. Decoding requires developing phonemic awareness in order to sound out words successfully.

### ***Reading Fluency***

Reading fluency is the ability to read quickly, with ease, accuracy and expression. Fluency is essential for effective reading comprehension.

### ***Reading Comprehension***

Students need to be able to keep track of their thinking as they read and to think critically about what they read. When students are able to engage in what they are reading, they are better able to build knowledge and develop insight from what they read.

## **Mathematics**

From the basics of developing a strong number sense to mastering math facts and concepts, mathematics is



an enormously complex skill area. Research based instructional methods including multi-sensory activities, and strategy instruction are effective in improving math skills.

## **Vocabulary**

Developing a rich vocabulary enables a student to understand the meaning of words they hear and read. The more words a student can put into active use, the better they will be able to communicate their ideas to others. There are many strategies and fun games for learning new vocabulary!

## **Grammar**

Ability to negotiate changes in sentence structure varies widely among school age children. The rules of language may be helpful for some and confusing for others. Language strategies may help a child decipher the meaning in complex sentences and formulate thoughts into grammatically correct syntax.

## **Note Taking, Study Skills, Memorization & Test Taking Skills**

The best teachers are those who teach *how to remember* what they teach. Successful learning begins with understanding how the brain processes and stores information.



## **Keyboarding**

Developing this essential everyday skill is useful for anyone! Keyboarding and other assistive technologies can be helpful for all students as well as those with special needs or learning style differences.

## **Handwriting**

Even though keyboarding is often an option, everyone has to write by hand at some point in their life. When handwriting is a challenge, it can slow a student's work. Multisensory or step by step technique instruction can help.

## **Small Group Workshops:**

Workshops are scheduled periodically and announced via email. Groups are generally 5 – 10 students and fees vary. Please let me know if you would like to be on my email list.

### ***Workshop topics include:***

- ❖ *Composition*
- ❖ *Note Taking Skills*
- ❖ *Study Skills*
- ❖ *Memorization*
- ❖ *Test Taking Skills*
- ❖ *Organizational Skills & Homework Mastery*



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