

From my first day of kindergarten I struggled with reading and spelling, but my short-term memory and my auditory comprehension and retention was very strong, so I got through school, though my grades were less than impressive. In my final semester of graduate school, after failing two language classes, a friend encouraged me to get tested for dyslexia. It had been a question in my mind since I had first heard about it on TV as a kid. So I got tested. Sure enough, I was diagnosed with dyslexia. My psychologist who did my testing did not know what to do to help me since I was older and finishing graduate school.

From there I moved to Saint Cloud, to take my first teaching position. As a teacher, I helped identify students who were struggling with dyslexia. It was their families that found Janna and Spelling Success. Those students showed marked improvements in their reading and spelling in my high school classes. During a teacher training seminar, I heard for the first time that systems like Barton actually help retrain the brain to read; with FMRI scans showing significant changes in brain function while reading after completion of the Barton System. Hearing that, I decided it was time to give Janna a call.

Learning the Barton System and learning to become a better reader is all about how hard you are willing to work. The Barton System just plain works and Janna is a great tutor. However, it is not a magic pill. Students who study the Barton System will become better readers, but they will only improve as much as they are willing to practice the skills and concepts they are being taught.

Before I started the Barton System with Janna at Spelling Success, I found reading fatiguing and I was easily distracted. Why words were spelled and pronounced the way they were was a complete mystery. But Spelling Success has given me greater endurance as a reader and helped me to understand the fundamentals behind spelling that has my wife now asking me how to spell things! Spelling Success and the Barton System is worth the time for any student young or old. My mentor has always said, "Leaders are readers." He's right and Spelling Success will help you or your student move into the lead in his or her class or field.

Matt

Barton Graduate, June 2015

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