

Testimonial:

My name is Joan L. Craig and I am formerly the owner/director of Mid-Valley Learning Center located in Albany, Oregon. The center closed in 2005 and became known as the Joan Craig Learning Center located in Jefferson, Oregon.

I am an Allied Educational Therapist and a master screener for Irlen Syndrome

The center screens for Dyslexia and Irlen Syndrome. There have been many students who have dyslexia who also have Irlen Syndrome, (estimate 93-94%). My theory is "if the student can't see the words, how can we teach the words." Having said that, I was a skeptic at first, until I realized, I had Irlen Syndrome. It started out with looking at my plan book that had black vertical and horizontal lines on it but instead of staying still the lines were moving and making my head hurt. So, speaking from evidence based assessment of myself, and the help of the first diagnostician, Susan Hughes and now our local diagnostician, Marcia Davis, I now wear pretty purple glasses which help me to see the lines on a plan book. I also do not get sick when seeing white walls.

Now about the students, I have had students say the words jump, words disappear, have shadows over them, do not stay on the page etc. Enclosed are pictures of some of the students using their covered overlays or reading with their lenses.

If we can help our special education teachers and teachers in the classroom be able to teach their curriculum more easily through the use of colored overlays which are inexpensive, doesn't that make sense to pass this bill.

Joan L. Craig / director

