Andy is 12 years old. He is the oldest of five siblings and is home-schooled.

When Andy first met the Learning Specialist at Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital, he mentioned that he had trouble “showing what he knows” and “knowing what information was important.”

Andy had been told by a friend that he has dyslexia (reading challenge) and dysgraphia (writing challenge) and this worried him.

His Learning Specialist explained to him that their program does not use labels, but rather helps each individual understand their learning strengths and challenges.

Andy was clear about what he thought he needed help with – i.e., reading, writing, spelling and math, and his sessions were targeted to developing strategies for a particular subject based on what Andy recognized about himself as a learner.

Andy practiced using the strategies on a consistent basis and he could tell they were working.

By Andy's last appointment he felt more confident and ready to move on; however, he also asked if he could come back at some point to have a check-in just to make sure all was still going well.

United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community.

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