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## Shedding light on Visual Dyslexia.

The dyslexic boxer's OK punch is the stuff of weak comedy. A child developing behavioural problems and unable to keep up at school is the stuff of tragedy. There is a simple way of improving the educational performance of tens of thousands of children. According to documented research **one in five children** have their learning disrupted to some extent by unsuitable artificial lighting and for **one in twenty children** the disruption is serious.

This is a learning handicap that has a solution - control the colour of the lighting and at least one child in every class can improve their reading performance by up to 25% while 5 other children can improve by 10%.

Visual dyslexia was ignored for generations. Local education authorities and teachers often refused to recognise that children suffering from it had legitimate learning support needs - some still do. Now visual dyslexia is being accepted as a serious problem that can respond to the right treatment. At last visual dyslexia is being seriously researched.

It has already been well established that the colour of ambient lighting has a major influence on the effects of visual dyslexia. Some sufferers can alleviate their reading problem by covering the page with a transparent coloured overlay to block out those wave lengths of light that make their problem worse. Optician's prescribe glasses with tinted lenses to achieve a similar result, but the tint dyes are broadband and not always entirely satisfactory. The obvious progression is to control the light that people read and write by.

With a colour controllable lamp the light does not come from one bulb but from a large array of light emitting diodes that cover the spectrum of colours. The control electronics allow the colour to be set to suit an individual's needs. The light is supplied with the Jordan Reversal and Inversion Test and the Jordan Pattern Screening Test as a quick and easy way of screening children with reading difficulties for easy setting of the lamp.

It is a wonderful thought that tens of thousands of children could have their educational experience enriched just by switching on a lamp.