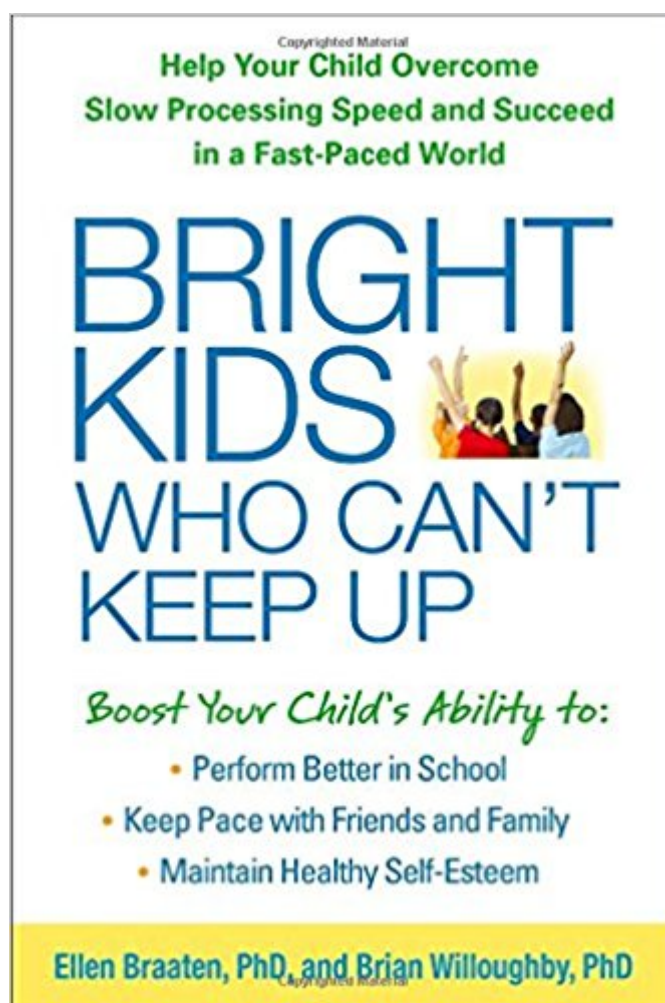


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# Bright Kids Who Can't Keep Up: Help Your Child Overcome Slow Processing Speed And Succeed In A Fast-Paced World



## Synopsis

Do you find yourself constantly asking your child to "pick up the pace"? Does he or she seem to take longer than others to get stuff done--whether completing homework, responding when spoken to, or getting dressed and ready in the morning? Drs. Ellen Braaten and Brian Willoughby have worked with thousands of kids and teens who struggle with an area of cognitive functioning called "processing speed," and who are often mislabeled as lazy or unmotivated. Filled with vivid stories and examples, this crucial resource demystifies processing speed and shows how to help kids (ages 5 to 18) catch up in this key area of development. Helpful practical tools can be downloaded and printed in a convenient 8 1/2" x 11" size. Learn how to obtain needed support at school, what to expect from a professional evaluation, and how you can make daily routines more efficient--while promoting your child's social and emotional well-being.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Superb, immensely helpful, authoritative; written with clarity, insight, and pizzazz. Highly recommended."--Edward Hallowell, MD, coauthor of *Driven to Distraction* "Finally, a book that tackles processing speed head on! After my son was diagnosed with slow processing speed, I began searching for answers. This is the first book that focuses on all the aspects of slow processing speed: home life, school life, and the emotional toll. Just like my son, the children described in this book all want to work hard and do well, but something is blocking them from thriving. The authors guide you to make a consistent, targeted plan to help your child live up to his

or her potential. As a teacher, this book is also helping me understand and address learning issues that I often see in the classroom."--Sarah R., parent "If you picture child development as a marathon, life for kids with processing speed issues is more like a steeplechase, with barriers and obstacles that have enormous implications for learning and social and emotional development. This book offers parents an extraordinary gift of knowledge and wisdom to aid in recognizing, understanding, and addressing the challenges of slow processing speed. Drs. Braaten and Willoughby help you accommodate your child's needs and promote essential skills so he or she can thrive."--Jerrold F. Rosenbaum, MD, Chief of Psychiatry, Massachusetts General Hospital; Stanley Cobb Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School "Drs. Braaten and Willoughby do an exceptional job of deconstructing the complex construct of processing speed. Through examples, articulate explanations of testing results, and clear descriptions of brain processes, this book provides a road map for parents."--Timothy E. Wilens, MD, author of *Straight Talk about Psychiatric Medications for Kids* "Parents in our neurodevelopmental clinic often ask, 'If my kid is so smart, why is he so slow?' Finally, there is a book to help parents understand processing speed and its impact on learning and behavior. Drs. Braaten and Willoughby explain the unique way your child engages with the world and discuss ways to overcome challenges, rather than simply offering labels. I will keep a copy of this book on my desk and add it to the short list of parenting books I unconditionally recommend."--Sam Goldstein, PhD, Department of Psychiatry, University of Utah School of Medicine; Clinical Director, Neurology, Learning, and Behavior Center, Salt Lake City

• This is an easy-to-read, informative book. The tone of the book is collaborative. I wish someone had handed me a copy of this book during my first year of teaching. This would be a great resource for any teacher, either to better understand these children or to share knowledge with parents. The book has several user-friendly features, including checklists, sample case studies, clear and simple explanations about working with these kids, and a list of additional resources in the back. Psychologists who evaluate and work with children with learning disabilities might also use the book when interacting with parents. Overall, Braaten and Willoughby take away the scientific, scary-sounding name of this learning disability and replace it with real examples of how these kids experience the world. They help readers appreciate that these kids are indeed bright and that with some adjustments to their daily routine, they can achieve daily success, too.

• (PsychCentral 2015-04-06)

• Child psychologists Braaten and Willoughby here offer a first-of-a-kind book on processing speeds in this aptly named title for parents, presenting a new area of cognitive research that is sure to receive more attention in the future. The authors provide checklists and psychological testing profiles to help parents identify specific areas of weaknesses.

An encouraging look at a problem to which many parents will relateâ. The authors do an excellent job of bringing the psychological research into the home. (\* starred review)â • (Library Journal 2014-08-01)

Ellen Braaten, PhD, is Director of the Learning and Emotional Assessment Program (LEAP) at Massachusetts General Hospital and Assistant Professor of Psychology at Harvard Medical School. The coauthor of *Straight Talk about Psychological Testing for Kids*, Dr. Braaten lives with her family in Boston. Brian Willoughby, PhD, is a Staff Psychologist at LEAP and a faculty member at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Willoughby specializes in neuropsychological assessments of children and adolescents with learning, developmental, and emotional concerns. He is married and lives in Boston.

Excellent book explaining what goes on in the brains of these kids. Explains the different kinds of diagnosticians who might be able to test your child and point you in the right direction. The book also talks about the long-range consequences of this learning difference (some outgrow it, some don't) and what can be done. For us, it meant pulling a child out of the brick-and-mortar environment where he was expected to take in information, process it, and produce results every 45 minutes, and go to an online learning program where he can have as much time as he needs to finish a lesson.

This book was excellent -- it perfectly described many of the difficulties my son experiences while also offering suggestions to help. It is also very reaffirming in that it does not make your child feel bad about himself, which many texts do. I bought a copy for family members to read also.

As a psychologist and mother of a child with slow processing speed, this book is one of the best resources I've come across. It gives clear information and suggestions about how to cope with slow processing speed in the home, at school, among friends, and for the child emotionally. We used it as a platform to educate ourselves, our child, and the school. I would highly recommend this book for both parents and clinicians who would like to understand or help someone diagnosed with slow processing speed better, whether that is in combination with another diagnosis such as ADHD or a Learning Disability, or not.

Helpful book for parents and teachers wanting to better understand and assist a child with slow

processing. 4 stars for content. However, check your copy carefully when it arrives. Mine arrived, brand new, with pages 81-113 missing and pages 49-80 included twice. Obviously a printing error that should have been caught before this book was sold.

We have struggled with figuring out why our perceptive child just could not do tasks in a reasonable amount of time. But this helped us figure out what we had to accept and let go of and what we could change to help him succeed.

This was a good book - with a few really good suggestions. As a mom of a 2E, I would absolutely recommend people read this book, but I do feel that it gave me a lot of "you get what I am going through" but without a lot of solutions. However, as any parent in this situation knows, if you can take 1 or 2 things from any book, you are better off.

Invaluable for parents that don't understand why their child's "slowness" impedes their academic achievement. I've bought several copies to hand out to my patients.

This book has been so useful in identifying some of my child's educational and regular life issues and in helping me determine helpful accommodations for them. I recommend it to a lot of people now.

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