

Family Computer Coding Day, with Author John Rodrigues

By Dr. Marianne Cintron

Family Computer Coding Day, with Author John Rodrigues, was sponsored by the International Dyslexia Association Tri-County Branch and it was held in the Corona Library. The event attracted parents of dyslexic and non-dyslexic elementary aged kids. The students learned how to build race cars with Lego-type parts, working together as a team, and then racing their cars. They also spent time making slime, you know the lovely, gushy Elmer's glue-based stuff that is so fun to play with!

Afterwards, there was a parent table talk session and many questions were asked about ensuring parents were informed about how to help children with dyslexia and that the right curriculum was in place in schools. Also, discussion about how to get coding added to a school program was of great interest. At the same time, the students were in a round group to discuss what they learned and how they felt about it.

John Rodrigues was a dyslexic High School dropout who learned the way he learned best and then went to Harvard. He saw how he learned best and became a successful entrepreneur. "I think in 3-D" he said. "I need a multi-sensory approach to learning." When you read directions to assemble a bike or your child's bed, do you prefer reading the directions or looking at assembly pictures? This is a perfect example of how excelling in three-dimensional can help dyslexic children be successful. Do you prefer watching "how to" videos or reading emails?

I share a passion like John to help our dyslexic students find their strengths and begin dreaming. I want them to be successful in life as John does. John, like many dyslexic children, went to school and was told he'd never amount to anything. In reading his book, you'll learn that he didn't have support from his dad and his mom never defended him. Many of our adults learn to live with dyslexia, and I've been told, "I wish I had someone like you to help me when I was in school."

If you would like more information about the So CA Tri-Counties Branch of IDA and how we can support you in your education about dyslexia, please reach out.

Photos of our event follow.

Students working together to make racing cars using the computer and students making slime that they



then played with. At **Family Computer Coding Day with John Rodrigues.**



Sponsored by the So CA Tri-Counties Branch of the International Dyslexia Association 10/13/18.