

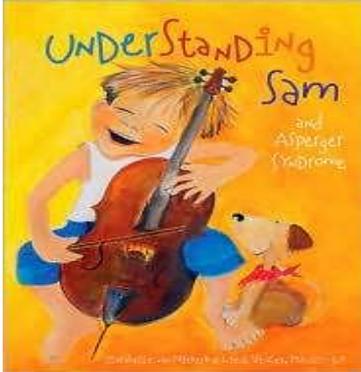
ADHD



Moss, Deborah. Shelley, The Hyperactive Turtle. Bethesda, Maryland: Woodbine House, 1989. Ages 3-8. Unpaged picture book.

Shelley, The Hyperactive Turtle, is one of the first children's books written for children with AD/HD. Shelley, a hyperactive turtle, struggles with sitting still at school, throwing food at lunch, and getting sent to the principal's office frequently. Shelley even has problems making friends outside of school and being yelled at by his parents. When Shelley's turtle parents are at their wits end, they take Shelley to the doctor, who diagnoses Shelley with hyperactivity and having ADHD. The story is light and uncomplicated throughout. Moss simplifies a complex problem in this shiny-happy book with a fairy tale ending about a widespread but touchy subject. Using an animal to depict behaviors connected with hyperactivity makes this a great book to use as a conversation starter.

Autism



Van Niekerk, Clarabelle and Liezel Venter. Understanding Sam. Skeezeel Press: Erie, PA, 2006. Unpaged. K-Grade 3. \$17.95.

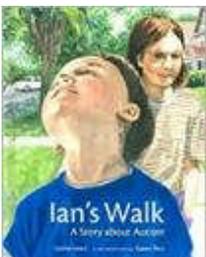
Answering the question *Why is Sam different*, this heartwarming story tells of the challenges of living with Asperger's Syndrome, a form of autism. This book can serve as an excellent introduction to the topic of autism and especially Asperger's Syndrome. The pictures are bright and lively, showing mostly happy faces and add to the positive tone of the story. The book concludes with an encouraging letter from the author to children who want to be

friends with a child with Asperger's. A list of ten relevant, clear, and descriptive tips directed at neurotypical children and families is provided, as a start toward fostering relationships with children with Asperger's.



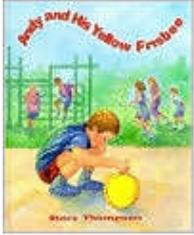
Peralta, Sarah. All About My Brother. Shawnee Mission, Kansas: Autism Asperger Publishing Co., 2002. 16.99. 27 pages. Ages 5-10.

This book gives children an insight into the life of a child with autism as described by a sibling. It helps children understand the challenges faced by a child with autism. Sarah is 8 years old and she lives in Lexington, Massachusetts with her family. Sarah is also the sister of Evan, who has autism. The central theme in Sara's story is for all people to understand, accept and enjoy the people in our world.



Lears, Laurie. Ian's Walk: A Story about Autism. Morton Grove, Illinois: Albert Whitman & Company, 1998. 6.95. Unpaged. Grades 1-4.

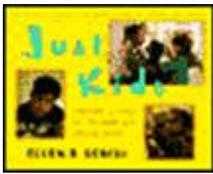
Tara and Julie, Ian's big sisters, take their brother Ian, who has autism, for a walk. Throughout the day Ian hears, smells, tastes and sees things differently than his sisters, and sometimes annoys them as any little brother will do. When Ian wanders away, they panic, but Julie closes her eyes and tries to think like Ian. Is he at the water fountain watching the stream of water gush past his eyes? Or is it the bell in the center of the park? The sisters are sometimes frustrated but show compassion and love for their brother at the same time. This story provides an insight into the world of autism and how it sometimes affects family members.



Thompson, Mary. Andy and His Yellow Frisbee. Bethesda, Maryland: Woodbine House, 1996. 14.95. Unpaged. K-Grade 4.

This is a heartwarming book about Andy, a boy with autism.

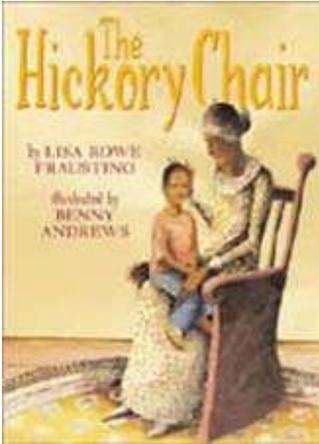
Autism is a difficult disability to comprehend and Rosie, Andy's sister, helps us to perceive Andy's need for space and understanding. At the end of the book, the author offers factual information about autism, its different degrees and characteristics. This is a book that will help youngsters understand how children with special needs may be different but they deserve acceptance and kindness just like all children do.



Senisi, Ellen B. Just Kids. Dutton Children's Books : New York, 1998. 16.99. 40 pages. Grades 2-5

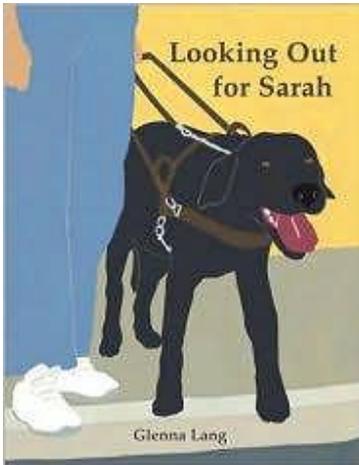
A little girl on the playground responds to a child with a disability in an ugly manner. The story describes Cindy's experiences and feelings as she learns more about children with disabilities. This is a book that would be used to clarify misconceptions about children with disabilities and how special education helps them to learn and become self-sufficient members of society.

Blindness



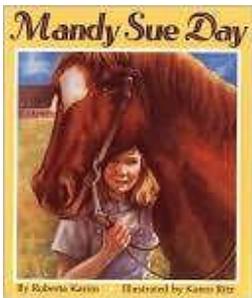
Fraustino, Lisa Rowe. The Hickory Chair. Arthur A. Levine, an imprint of Scholastic, New York, 2001. \$15.95

The Hickory Chair tells the story of Louis, a young boy who is blind, and his special relationship with his grandmother. Gran calls Louis her "favorite youngest" and helps him take pride in his "blind sight." The author gives just the right details to make the characters' world real and help young readers imagine what it might be like to experience the world without sight.



Lang, Glenna. Looking Out for Sarah Tailwinds : Watertown, MA, 2001. \$15.95.

This book is based on a true story about Sarah Gregory Smith, who is blind and the very special relationship that she developed with her guide dog, Perry. This book talks about how animals can help people with disabilities do extraordinary things. In the story, the narrator tells of ways that the black lab helps his human who is blind complete everyday tasks like going to the market, playing in the park, taking a train ride, and going to the post office. Overall, this is a delightful children's book, full of big, brightly illustrated pages that can teach children of all ages the important contributions made by guide dogs.



Karim, Roberta. Mandy Sue Day. Clarion Books : New York, 1994

Mandy Sue, a member of a large farm family, is blind. The story describes the things she hears, feels, smells, and tastes, as she enjoys a day spent grooming and riding her horse. Karim's prose, which borders on blank verse, beautifully conveys the child's sensations and emotions. Ritz's illustrations in muted colors have an old-fashioned ambiance and depict a warm family and the area's open landscape. Children will think differently about disabilities such as blindness after reading this story. Teachers wishing to engender discussion about differences should find this book a good way to show how Mandy Sue handles her disability. Since Mandy Sue's blindness is not mentioned until the very end, readers will undoubtedly conclude that her disability does not diminish her life in any way.



Adler, David. A Picture Book of Helen Keller. Holiday House : New York, 1992. 16.95. Unpaged. K-Grade 4.

David Adler has written a series of picture book biographies of famous and important people in history. Helen Keller was a strong-willed child who did not let her disabilities stop her from learning. With Annie Sullivan's guidance, Helen learned thousands of words, how to read Braille, and how to speak. She went on to Radcliffe College where she excelled with the help of her friend and mentor. Helen spent her adult life traveling, writing, and working for the American Foundation for the Blind. Her life is a true inspiration for children and adults with and without a disability.

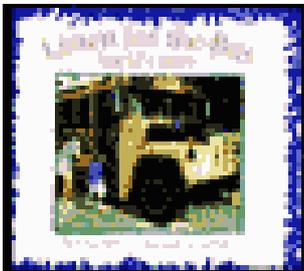


Carter, Alden. Seeing Things My Way. Albert Whitman & Company : Illinois, 1998. Unpaged. Grades 1-5.

This is a heartwarming narrative told by a child who is blind in her own voice. In a matter-of-fact manner, second-grader Amanda explains how she deals with her sight loss in her daily life. The full-color photographs on each page show the girl and others using various tools and aids such as Braille, magnifiers and guide dogs to help her learn, work, maneuver safely, and communicate. This is a great book to use with students of all ages when talking about the challenges that life throws at us and how to cope with them. This book also challenges us to accept and enjoy our life.

Alexander, Sally Hobart. Mom Can't See Me. New York : Macmillan Publishing Company, 1990. 14.95. Unpaged. Ages 6-10

This is the story of Sally Hobart Alexander told from the viewpoint of her 9-year old daughter. The girl's pride in her mother's courage and accomplishments, the humor that touches every part of their life, and the sadness as the mother "takes a double share of touching and hearing" because she can not see her children is evident throughout this narrative. She includes some of the frustrations of blindness as well as the fear children have of "catching" blindness and the sadness of knowing that her mother can never see her are vividly described. Sally Hobart Alexander is a typical Mom—caring and nurturing her family despite her disability.



McMahon, Patricia. Listen for the Bus: David's Story. Honesdale, PA : Boyds Mills Press, 1995. 15.95. Readers of all ages.

Patricia McMahon has captured the simple hour-to-hour activities enjoyed by David, a young boy who is blind, and his activities at home, at school, and at play. She shows us how David learns about the world with help from his patient, caring and understanding parents, his teachers and his friends. This book is a fascinating look at how different people learn in different ways. This book gives readers an exceptional feeling of identification with the main character. Although it is directed at kindergarten and primary grades, older children can learn much from this book as well.



Steingold, Rita Whitman. Taking Visual Impairment to School. Plainview, NY : JayJo Books, 2004. 5.95. Unpaged. Ages 5-10.

Taking Visual Impairment to School is number 17 in the JayJo series—Special Kids in School. This book is about a young girl named Lisa who is blind. Lisa describes her daily routines, her likes and dislikes, her needs, and her dreams. The Special Kids in Schools Series is a good resource for school counselors, teachers, school nurses, parents, or caregivers. These books are beautifully illustrated, and both simplify and normalize complicated childhood issues. These books should be read out loud to help students understand that not everyone is the same. They help children feel accepted and safe. Each book includes a "Kid Quiz" and "Ten Tips for Teachers."



Adler, David A. [A Picture Book of Louis Braille](#). Holiday House : New York, 1998. 16.95. Unpaged. K-Grade 4.

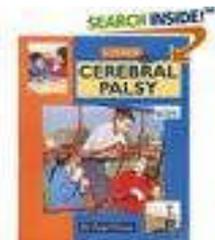
David Adler's biography of Louis Braille is an appealing introduction to the Frenchman who invented the raised-dot alphabet/code now used around the world by blind and visually impaired readers. The text is simple yet informative, tracing Braille's life from the childhood accident that caused him to lose his sight through his career at the National Institute for Blind Children in Paris. The development of the alphabet/code is a major component of the book and is explained in an understandable manner. Readers can feel the alphabet and numbers from 1-10 at the back of the book. Softly colored watercolor illustrations add visual clues for younger children.

Cerebral Palsy



Thompson, Lauren. Ballerina Dreams. New York : Feiwel and Friends, 2007. \$16.95. K-grade 5. unpagged.

This book focuses on five little girls who long to be ballerinas and perform on stage. Each of the girls has cerebral palsy or other muscle disorder and several of the girls wear leg braces. The overall theme of this true story is 'true grit' in the face of overwhelming odds. The author frames the story as one of a dream come true and in describing the girls' work with their teacher, the author stresses what these girls might have in common with the audience—their excitement, their delight in their tutus and tiaras, their last-minute jitters, and their unmistakable pleasure in dancing. This is a truly lovely and inspirational book that serves to remind us that with hard work and perseverance, dreams do come true.



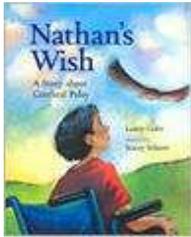
Pimm, Paul. Living With Cerebral Palsy. Austin, Texas : Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers, 1999. K-Grade 4.

This book features Kate, Jennie, Paul and Simon. They are very different people but they all have cerebral palsy. Living With Cerebral Palsy is a good companion to I'm the Big Sister Now. Even though both books are nonfiction, they deal with disability in a different way. Living With Cerebral Palsy is more descriptive about the disability in general. It explains what it is, how it happens and how it affects people differently. It also goes into detail about treatments, therapies and coping strategies. I'm the Big Sister Now is a more personal approach to the same topic.



Emmert, Michelle I'm the Big Sister Now. Niles, Illinois : Albert Whitman & Company, 1989. Unpagged. Grades 1-4

Michelle Emmert has written a heart-warming story about her older sister Amy who was born with cerebral palsy. It is most commonly associated with premature birth and damage caused to the brain cells of the fetus. As yet there is no cure—it is a permanent non-progressive disability that a person will always have. This book describes the relationship between the author and her older sister Amy. The story is told simply and honestly. Michelle Emmert shares her feelings of joy, respect, frustration, and awe as she describes Amy and their life together.



Lears, Laurie. Nathan's Wish: A Story about Cerebral Palsy. Morton Grove, Illinois : Albert Whitman & Company, 2005. 16.95. Unpaged. Grades 1-4.

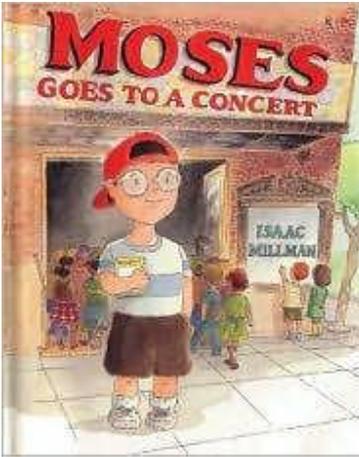
This story parallels the feelings of an injured owl that needs to accept that he will never fly again to those of Nathan, a young boy who has cerebral palsy and will never walk without the aid of a wheelchair or crutches. The plot centers on a wounded owl that ends up in the care of the boy's neighbor, Miss Sandy, a Raptor Rehabilitator. The bird, named Fire because of her bright yellow eyes, fails to regain the use of her broken wing, and both she and Nathan take the defeat extremely hard. However, Nathan comes up with the idea of allowing Fire to care for orphaned baby owls, and the plan eventually works. Fire finds renewed interest in life while showing Nathan that even with physical limitations, there are important ways to help. Warm illustrations with bold brush strokes complement this feel-good story. A preliminary note provides useful information about cerebral palsy.



Heelan, Jamee Riggio. Rolling Along: The Story of Taylor and His Wheelchair. Atlanta : Peachtree Publishing, 1998. 14.95. Unpaged. Kindergarten through Grade 4.

This is another book in the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago Learning Book series. Taylor and Tyler are twins. Taylor and Tyler are identical in many ways except Taylor has cerebral palsy. Taylor describes his disability, the aspects of his daily activities at home and at school, and his desire for independence. When Taylor learns how to use a wheelchair it changes his life. Now he can keep up with his friends at school and even play basketball. His mobility allows him to be more independent, which he likes. The book also includes some discussion of his physical-therapy sessions. At times, Taylor's frustrations come through, as when the illustrator shows him in his wheelchair facing a rather high set of stairs. However, in the end, the message is that he enjoys the same activities as his twin and other children.

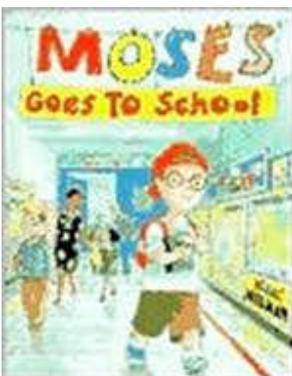
Deafness



Millman, Isaac. Moses Goes to a Concert. Farrar Strauss Giroux : New York,

Moses and his school friends are deaf, but like most children, they have a lot to say. They communicate in American Sign Language using visual signs and facial expressions. This is called signing, and even though they can not hear, they can enjoy many activities through their other senses. Isaac Millman tells Moses' story in pictures, written English, and in American Sign Language (ASL), introducing children to the signs for some of the key words and ideas. At the end of the book are two full conversations in sign language and a page showing the hand alphabet. The final page illustrates the signed

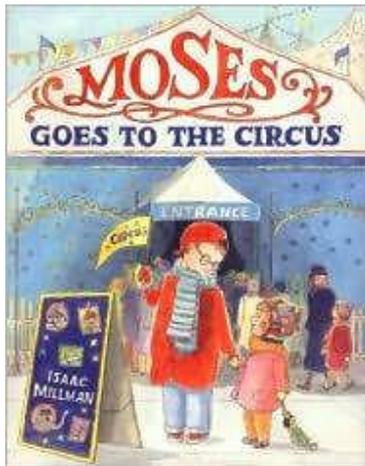
letters of the alphabet. This is an excellent book that can be used with students to show them how people who are deaf communicate with each other. This book is Isaac Millman's first book in a series of 4 books about a child who is deaf.



Millman, Isaac. Moses Goes To School. Farrar Strauss Giroux: New York, 2000. \$16.00

Moses, who debuted in *Moses Goes to a Concert*, is back in this delightful book which is both interesting and informational. A day at a school for a person who is deaf is like a day at any school. The illustrations help to emphasize the fun and charm of Moses and his friends. The variety of ethnicities and nationalities represented emphasizes that children with disabilities come from all cultures. Isaac Millman follows Moses through a typical school day, telling the story in pictures, written English, and in

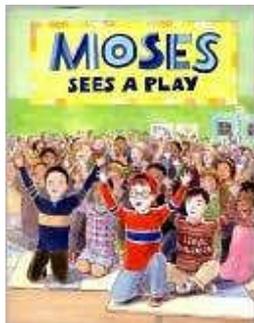
American Sign Language. He introduces children to the signs for some key words and ideas. At the end of this book is a favorite song -- "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" -- in sign! A great activity to use with a group of students.



Millman, Isaac. Moses Goes To The Circus. Farrar Strauss Giroux,

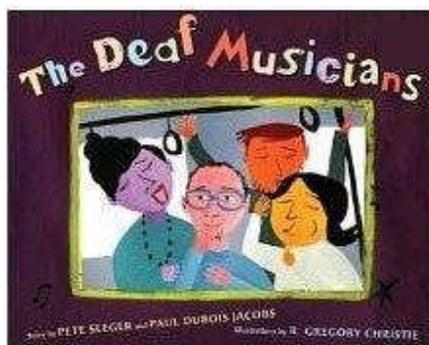
Once again, Isaac Millman has given us another book about Moses and his friends and family. In this book Moses and his family are going to the circus. During the show, American Sign Language interpreters translate the sounds and spoken words into sign language. This is very special for Moses because he is deaf and it will mean that he will be able to appreciate the circus more than if the interpreters were not there. Throughout the book there are little boxes on the pages which show Moses signing some of the words mentioned in the text. This book is very useful to help children understand the world of someone who is deaf. It's also great to help children learn a few words in American Sign Language

(ASL), giving them an appreciation for how people who are deaf communicate with each other.



Millman, Isaac. Moses Sees a Play. Farrar Strauss Giroux : New York, 2004.

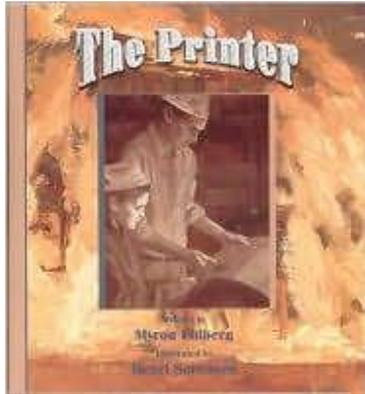
This is the fourth in the series of books about a young boy who is deaf named Moses. Isaac Millman blends how-to diagrams of American Sign Language with Moses' continuing story. As in the other books in the series, Moses is depicted as a regular boy who enjoys school and experiencing new things. At the end, Moses uses a TTY to "talk" via a telephone to his grandparents and tell them about the Little Theatre of the Deaf and his new friend. Sidebars show the motions for some of the vocabulary and sentences in signed English. Readers can learn about people who are deaf and practice signing.



Seeger, Pete and Paul DuBois Jacobs. The Deaf Musicians. Putnam's : New York, 2006. \$16.99.

Pete Seeger is a marvelous story teller and this story doesn't disappoint. This book is the winner of the ALA Schneider Family Book Award is a about the power of music, overcoming obstacles and the many different ways to hear the world. [The Deaf Musicians](#) is the story about a jazz piano man named Lee who loses his hearing and is let go from his band by the bandleader. Lee learns to make music in a new way. The book's upbeat narrative,

along with its bright colors, teaches the reader that there is more than one way to do everything, to never give up on your dreams and that music can be enjoyed by all.



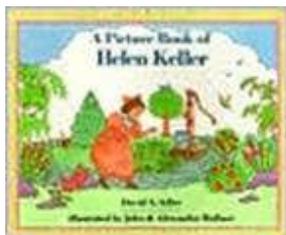
Uhlberg, Myron. The Printer. PeachtreePublishers : 2003. 16.95.

This is a unique tale of a quiet kind of heroism-literally and figuratively. A young boy tells the story of his father who is deaf who loved working as a printer for a major newspaper but was saddened by the fact that his hearing coworkers ignored him because he could not talk. This story documents the treatment of people who are deaf in the past. They were often relegated to noisy physical labor such as this and little was done to understand their needs or abilities. The last page contains instructions on making a newspaper hat like those worn by the printers in the book.



Uhlberg, Myron. Dad, Jackie, and Me. Peachtree Publishers: Atlanta, 2005.

This story is based on Myron Uhlberg's experiences growing up as a hearing child of parents who are deaf. This is a book about an avid young baseball player and fan of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Children who read this book are exposed to the history of U.S. baseball, and the importance of Jackie Robinson to the sport. Readers will also be exposed to the bond that exists with a young son and his father who is deaf. Not only does this book teach racial tolerance, it teaches students about having a family member who is deaf and describes this in a way that children can understand.



Adler, David. A Picture Book of Helen Keller. Holiday House : New York, 1992. 16.95. Unpaged. K-Grade 4.

David Adler has written a series of picture book biographies of famous and important people in history. Helen Keller was a strong-willed child who did not let her disabilities stop her from learning. With Annie Sullivan's guidance, Helen learned thousands of words, how to read Braille, and how to speak. She went on to Radcliffe College where she excelled with the help of her friend and mentor. Helen spent her adult life traveling, writing, and working for the American Foundation for the Blind. Her life is a true inspiration for children and adults with and without a disability.



Heelan, Jamee Riggio. Can You Hear a Rainbow?: The Story of a Deaf Boy Named Chris. Peachtree Publishers, Ltd. : Atlanta, Georgia, 2002. Unpaged. K-Grade 3. \$14.99.

Chris, who's about 10 years old, explains in his own words how he learned about his disability and how he has learned to use sign language, hearing aids, lip reading, and other visual clues to help him communicate. Jamee Riggio Heelan has written a series of books about children living with disabilities. Other books are: **The Making of My Special Hand: Madison's Story** and **Rolling Along: The Story of Taylor and His Wheelchair**. His stories are thoroughly researched and are sanctioned by The Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago Learning Center.



Peterson, Jeanne Whitehouse. I Have A Sister. My Sister is Deaf. New York Harper & Row, 1976. 11.89. Unpaged. K-3.

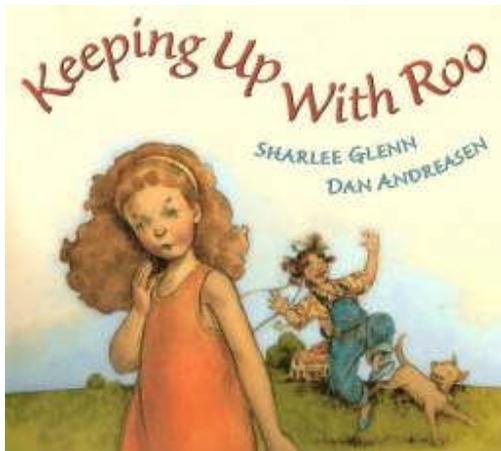
This is a book about a young girl who is deaf who loves to run and jump and play and is affectionately described by her older sister. The author describes her sister as special and she adds lovingly, "there are not many sisters like mine." This is a lovely book to help children and adults become more aware of issues related to deafness. It exemplifies the fact that a person who is deaf can do anything except hear. This book won the 1979 Coretta Scott King Award Honor Book, and it was a Reading Rainbow Selection of 1977.



Wheeler, Jill C. Heather Whitestone—Miss America With a Mission. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Abdo & Daughters, 1996. 32 pages. Ages 6-10

This is an easy to read biography about Heather Whitestone, the first Miss America with a disability. Heather lost most of her hearing when she was 18 months old as a result of an unnamed illness. She lost all of her hearing in her right ear and 95% of hearing in her left ear. Even though she wears a hearing aid in her left ear, her hearing is extremely limited. Heather tells her story with simplicity and honesty. Heather Whitestone was determined that nothing would stand in the way achieving her goals: to dance and to compete in pageants. Out of her success came her goal to encourage others. Heather's STARS (Success Through Action and Realization of your dreams) program is worthy of emulation by all of us.

Developmental Disabilities

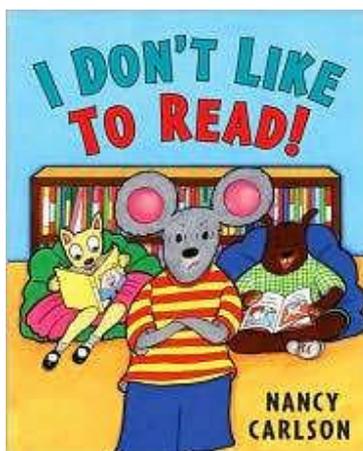


Glenn, Sharlee. **Keeping Up With Roo**. G.P. Putnam's Sons: New York, New York, 2004. \$14.99

Sharlee Glenn's children's picture book, [Keeping Up With Roo](#), is a really special book! It is illustrated beautifully by Dan Andreasen. This is a sweet, warm book about a little girl, Gracie, whose best friend is her Aunt Ruth, "Roo" who has a developmental disability.

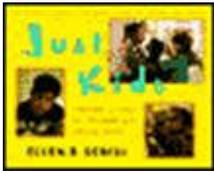
This book teaches acceptance, tolerance, and especially love for those with developmental disabilities in a very sensitive way. Children form

their earliest impressions about people with disabilities from the reactions and attitudes they observe from their parents and from other adults. [Keeping Up with Roo](#) lends itself to discussions about people with developmental disabilities, and what our attitudes and behaviors toward them should be. The book teaches that people with disabilities have feelings, desires, and hopes just like the rest of us. Siblings of children with developmental disabilities will certainly appreciate and relate to Gracie's feelings of both unconditional love and uncertainty.



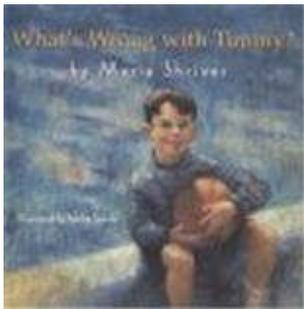
Carlson, Nancy. **I Don't Like to Read!** Viking Press : New York, 2007. unpagged. K-4. 15.99.

Henry is an appealing character and children will identify with him. Henry likes most things about first grade—except for reading, that is. Everyone else loves to read. His classmate Tony can even read upside down! But when Henry is called on in class, he freezes. His teacher soon discovers that it's not that Henry does not like to read, it is that he cannot read. After some extra help at school and at home, Henry begins to feel more confident about words and letters.



Senisi, Ellen B. Just Kids. Dutton Children's Books : New York, 1998. 16.99. 40 pages. Grades 2-5

A little girl on the playground responds to a child with a disability in an ugly manner. The story describes Cindy's experiences and feelings as she learns more about children with disabilities. This is a book that would be used to clarify misconceptions about children with disabilities and how special education helps them to learn and become self-sufficient members of society.



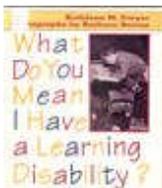
Shriver, Maria. What's Wrong With Timmy?. Warner Books and Little, Brown, and Company : New York, 2000. Unpaged. Grades 1-4. \$14.95.

Kate is a typical, curious child who wants to know about everything. Maria Shriver has written a very low-key, sensitive story about how Kate's Mother handles her many questions. Maria Shriver draws from her family's experiences with a family member who has a disability and her sensitivity shines through. This is a very good story to read to children before they enter the school system and learn about all types of children they will encounter. The book also encourages children to be accepting of everyone and not judge by appearances.



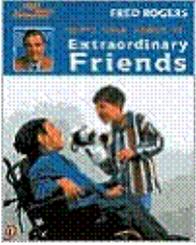
Brown, Tricia. Someone Special Just Like You. New York : Henry Holt and Company, 1982. 14.95. 64 pages. Ages 4-10.

This book was created to fill a need—for children to understand that we should accept one another for the unique talents and love we have to share with one another and not for our physical appearances and limitations. This book emphasizes that we are all special in our own unique way; that what is important is the common delight in life--a desire to love, learn, play, and be accepted. The children pictured have a variety of disabilities: visual, hearing, physical and mental. Each of the children is a full participant in the joys, pains and frustrations of childhood and the act of growing up.



Dwyer, Kathleen M. What Do You Mean I Have a Learning Disability? New York : Walker and Company, 1990. 15.85. Unpaged. Grades 3-6.

This is a true story about a 10 year old boy named Jimmy who thinks he's different because other kids can do things better than he can. His parents are baffled because they do not understand why Jimmy is having such a difficult time. One of his teachers comes to his aid when he suggests to the parents that Jimmy should be "tested". Finally, testing reveals that Jimmy does have a learning disability. This book clearly expresses all the feelings that most children with a learning-disability experience: fear, anger, discouragement, and lack of self-worth. The book is a good choice for sharing with students who have learning disabilities as well as with their classmates.



Rogers, Fred. Let's Talk About It: Extraordinary Friends. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1999. \$15.99. Ages 6-10

In this book Mr. Rogers confronts the awkwardness and fears that we all have when trying to relate to those who are different. He describes how six children became extraordinary friends despite their differences. In his own special way, Mr. Rogers teaches us that we are all special, each in our unique way. He explains that all people desire love and friendship. The pictures of children in wheelchairs or using walkers playing with other children highlight the fact that if we look beyond the physical appearance, we can often find similar likes, dislikes, fears, dreams and hopes. Additionally, the book honestly addresses the different reactions children have to persons with disabilities and provides guidance to overcome these perceptions.

Down Syndrome



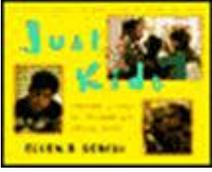
Senisi, Ellen B. Just Kids. Dutton Children's Books: New York, 1998. 16.99. 40 pages. Grades 2-5

A little girl on the playground responds to a child with a disability in an ugly manner. The story describes Cindy's experiences and feelings as she learns more about children with disabilities. This is a book that would be used to clarify misconceptions about children with disabilities and how special education helps them to learn and become self-sufficient members of society.

Fleming, Virginia. Be Good to Eddie Lee. New York: Philomel Books, 1991. 14.95. Unpaged. K-grade 3.

On the first day of summer vacation, Christy and her friend JimBud go to a nearby pond, looking for something to do. JimBud said he knew a great place to go wading and find frog eggs. When Eddie Lee, a child with Down syndrome follows them, Christy tells him to stay home, and JimBud tries to chase him away. They think he makes loud noises and they don't want to be around him. But it's Eddie Lee who leads Christy to a hidden miniature lake full of water lilies and frog eggs. While looking at their reflections in the rippling water of this miniature lake, Christy realizes that Eddie Lee is a person with a heart who cares about the same things she does. He looks different, but inside he's just like her.

Epilepsy



Senisi, Ellen B. Just Kids. Dutton Children's Books: New York, 1998. 16.99. 40 pages. Grades 2-5

A little girl on the playground responds to a child with a disability in an ugly manner. The story describes Cindy's experiences and feelings as she learns more about children with disabilities. This is a book that would be used to clarify misconceptions about children with disabilities and how special education helps them to learn and become self-sufficient members of society.

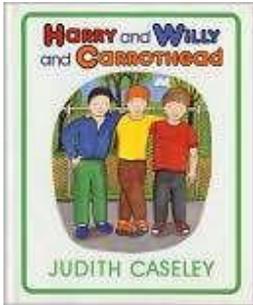
Physical Disabilities



Thomas, Pat. Don't Call Me Special: A First Look at Disability. New York: Barron's, 2002. 6.95. 29 pages. K-Grade 4.

The central theme of this book is all children are special. This delightful picture book explores questions and concerns about physical disabilities in a simple and reassuring way. Younger children can find out about individual disabilities, adaptive equipment that is available to help people with disabilities, and how people of all ages can deal with disabilities and live happy and full lives. Written by psychotherapist and counselor Pat Thomas, *A First Look At* books promote positive interaction among children, parents, and teachers, and encourage kids to ask questions and confront social and emotional questions that sometimes present problems. The book features appealing full-color illustrations on every page plus a page of advice to parents and teachers. This is a great book to use as a “story starter” when talking about the word “special” and what it means when we use it to describe people.

Prosthetics



Caseley, Judith. Harry and Willy and Carrothead. Greenwillow Books: New York, 1990. Unpaged. K-grade 4. 15.99

Harry, the first character to whom we are introduced, is born without a hand and arm. He has a physical disability but it is clear that he has accepted this. He is just a regular kid who enjoys life. He is creative, friendly and genuine. He can discuss his prosthesis or defend a new friend with equal ease. Carrothead's problem is that he hates his red hair almost as much as he hates being teased by Willy. How these three boys overcome their prejudices and become good friends is the foundation of this story.



Heelan, Jamee Riggio. The Making of My Special Hand: Madison's Story. Atlanta: Peachtree Publishing, 1998. 14.95. Unpaged. Kindergarten through Grade 4.

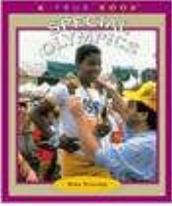
This is a Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago Learning Book. This book is told in the first person—so it is Madison's story told by Madison. Madison was born with one hand. Beginning with the first visit to the hospital, Madison describes for us the steps that went into making her "helper hand". Jamee Heelan takes us through the whole process: making the plaster cast, fitting the socket, connecting the electrode and battery, and occupational therapy. Occasional simple ink diagrams demonstrate the science and mechanics of prosthetics. Madison says at the end, "I love my special hand. I can wear it as long as I want and any time I want. It's part of me now."

Service Animals

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. The Right Dog for the Job. New York: Walker & Company, 2004. 17.85. Unpaged. _K-Grade 4.

This is a wonderful book about the selection and training of service dogs. Young students will enjoy this book for both the information and the wonderful pictures of the dogs. You see how the dogs were trained to retrieve dropped keys, press a wheelchair sign to open doors, turn on light switches, sit quietly and not be distracted, and follow directions. The training is intensive and the people who take on this responsibility are extremely dedicated.

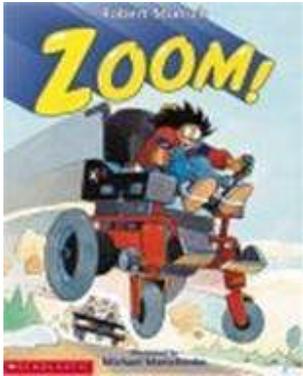
Sports



Kennedy, Mike. Special Olympics. New York: Children's Press, 2002. \$25.00. 47 pages. A New True Book. Grade 1-5.

This book gives a brief history of the Special Olympics, an athletic competition for people with developmental disabilities. It describes how the Special Olympic games are run and who may participate. The Special Olympics is a great way for people with developmental disabilities to enjoy the benefits of sports, improve their physical fitness, experience the thrill of competition and make lifelong friendships. This is an easy to read book that is visually appealing because of the colorful photographs of actual athletes sharing their successes proudly.

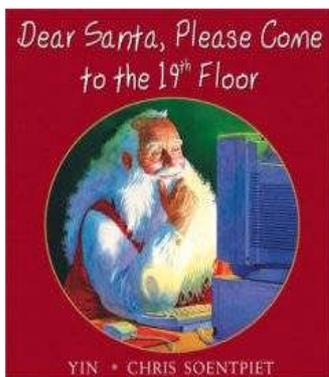
Wheelchair Users



Munsch, Robert. Zoom. Scholastic: New York, 2003. \$13.95.

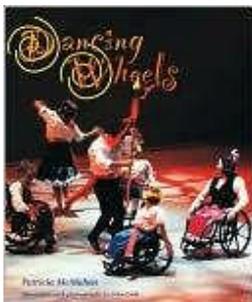
This is an amusing story with a positive message about young people with disabilities. This story is about Lauretta, a strong-willed and quick-thinking child whose wheelchair is getting too small for her. Lauretta herself is a spunky kid who demonstrates courage, determination and tenacity and whose crutches, leg braces, and wheelchair are part of her character, not the focus. What makes this book special is the story's refreshing, lighthearted approach and its lively, unstoppable protagonist, who, like many kids her age, dreams of going fast, faster, fastest--on a great set of wheels regardless

of her disability.



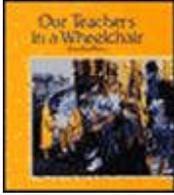
Yin. Dear Santa, Please Come to the 19th Floor. Philomel Books: New York, 2002. \$16.99.

This is a powerful, poignant book about dignity and hope in the midst of poverty and despair. Soentpiet's beautiful, realistic watercolor illustrations contrast starkly with the gritty setting, complementing the mood of the text. It is a successful combination of fantasy and realism with an important underlying message: the real gift is that of hope.



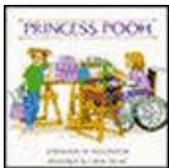
McMahon, Patricia. Dancing Wheels. Houghton-Mifflin: Boston, 2000. 48 pages. Appropriate for all grade levels. 16.00.

This is the photo-essay of the Dancing Wheels dance company, the classes and workshops it offers to both stand-up and wheelchair dancers, the performers it trains and the performances it puts on. Author Patricia McMahon takes us backstage with the Dancing Wheels dance company and into the lives of two young dancers — Jenny, a "sit-down" dancer, and her partner Devin, a "stand-up" dancer. This is an excellent book to help children and adults expand their understanding about the many abilities of people with disabilities.



Powers, Mary Ellen. Our Teacher's in a Wheelchair. Niles, Illinois: Albert Whitman & Company, 1986. Unpaged. Ages 5-10.

This is a photo essay that presents a different view of people with disabilities. Brian, a young teacher, was injured in a lacrosse accident and now uses a wheelchair. Brian is a special role model. Not only is he a male teacher who is involved with young children; he is also a young, compassionate man who is open about his disability and does not allow it to get in the way of his nurturing and teaching. A very special facet of this book is the way the author uses Brian as an example to show children that it is okay to ask for help when they need it. The narrative is simple enough for a preschool student, but has enough depth for a 10 year old.



Muldoon, Kathleen M. Princess Pooh. Niles, Illinois: Albert Whitman & Company, 1988. K-Grade 4.

This book explores the frustrations and jealousy felt by an eight-year-old whose older sister is perceived to rule the world from a throne on wheels. In Princess Pooh, Patty is the younger sibling of a sister who uses a wheelchair. Patty envies the attention her sister receives so much that she is resentful of her “exalted” status and she often refers derogatorily to the wheelchair as “her throne”. The tone of this book is a realistic mirror of sibling feelings and one that children will relate to.



Heelan, Jamee Riggio. Rolling Along: The Story of Taylor and His Wheelchair. Atlanta: Peachtree Publishing, 1998. 14.95. Unpaged. Kindergarten through Grade 4.

This is another book in the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago Learning Book series. Taylor and Tyler are twins. Taylor and Tyler are identical in many ways except Taylor has cerebral palsy. Taylor describes his disability, the aspects of his daily activities at home and at school, and his desire for independence. When Taylor learns how to use a wheelchair it changes his life. Now he can keep up with his friends at school and even play basketball. His mobility allows him to be more independent, which he likes. The book also includes some discussion of his physical-therapy sessions. At times, Taylor's frustrations come through, as when the illustrator shows him in his wheelchair facing a rather high set of stairs. However, in the end, the message is that he enjoys the same activities as his twin and other children.

Misc.



London, Jonathan. The Lion Who Had Asthma. Morton Grove, Illinois: Albert Whitman & Company, 1991. 5.99. Unpaged. Ages 5-6

In this book, Jonathan London tells the story of his young son, Sean, who has asthma. Many people do not think of asthma as a disability because people with asthma do not appear to be different. There is no cure for asthma. Sean is a little boy with a freewheeling imagination, supportive parents and the will to overcome his asthma. Along with the entertaining story, this book also includes a lot of information on childhood asthma and how to control its symptoms. This is a comforting story to use with children who have asthma and who are scared and need information that they can understand and relate to.

Rosenberg, Maxine B. Finding a Way: Living with Exceptional Brothers and Sisters. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1988. 48 pages. Ages 5 and up.

Maxine Rosenberg has written a very sensitive book on the relationship between siblings when one of them has a disability. This book provides a valuable opportunity for siblings to express a lot of their fears and concerns and can provide parents with an equally valuable opportunity to provide support to their children. This is a good book for children who have a sibling with or without a disability to read.