

Disability-Inclusive Books for Children

Both Mental and Physical Disabilities (Categories Organized Alphabetically)

Agoraphobia

[The 10pm Question](#)

by DeGoldi, Kate

YA Fiction DEG

Twelve-year-old Frankie Parsons has a quirky family, a wonderful best friend, and a head full of worrying questions that he shares with his mother each night, but when free-spirited Sydney arrives at school with questions of her own, Frankie is forced to face the ultimate ten p.m. question.

Alopecia

[Mookey the monkey gets over being teased](#)

by Lonczak, Heather Suzanne

JEASY

Teased by his classmates because he is hairless, Mookey the monkey discovers there are many ways to handle teasing and still remain true to oneself.

Alzheimer's Disease

[Singing with Momma Lou](#)

by Altman, Linda Jacobs.

JEASY

Nine-year-old Tamika uses photographs, school yearbooks, movie ticket stubs, and other mementos to try to restore the memory of her grandmother, who has Alzheimer's disease.

[Still my grandma](#)

by Abeele, Veronique van den

JEASY ABE

A young girl describes her special relationship with her grandmother, both before and after Grandma contracts Alzheimer's Disease.

Asperger's Syndrome

[Friends Learn About Tobin](#)

by Murrell, Diane

JEASY

This picture book is intended to teach social skills to children with autism, Asperger's syndrome, and other pervasive developmental disorders. Tobin the train's friends try to understand where he is coming from, and learn that kindness can put them on the same track.

[I am utterly unique : celebrating the strengths of children with asperger syndrome and high-functioning autism](#)

by Larson, Elaine Marie

J 618.9289 LAR

An alphabetical enumeration of individual traits that make children--and others--unique features talents and abilities from the autism spectrum.

[The Aspie Teen's Survival Guide](#)

by Kraus, J.D.

Candid advice for teens, tweens, and parents, from a young man with Asperger's Syndrome.

[Tobin learns to make friends](#)

by Murrell, Diane

JEASY

This colorful picture book is quite effective in teaching social skills to children with autism, Asperger's Syndrome, and other pervasive developmental disorders. Follow Tobin, a train, as he learns how to make friends with other trains and engage in proper social activities.

[Understanding Sam and Asperger Syndrome](#)

by Niekerk, Clarabelle Van

A young boy named Sam, has difficulty at school and seems moody at home. When Sam is diagnosed with a form of autism called Asperger syndrome, his family and teachers understand him better and learn how to help him succeed. Includes tips for parents, teachers and children on being with children who have Asperger's.

Attention Disorders

[Cory stories : a kid's book about living with ADHD](#)

by Kraus, Jeanne

J 618.92 KRA

In short statements and vignettes, Cory describes what it's like to have ADHD: how it affects his relationships with friends and family, his school performance, and his overall functioning. He also describes the many ways available to kids for coping with ADHD, including medication, therapy/counseling, and practical activities for school, home, and friendships.

[Help is on the Way: a Child's Book About ADD](#)

by Nemiroff, Marc A.

Explains the effects of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and how it can be handled.

[Joey Pigza Loses Control](#)

by Gantos, Jack

Joey, who is still taking medication to keep him from getting too wired, goes to spend the summer with the hard-drinking father he has never known and tries to help the baseball team he coaches win the championship.

[Joey Pigza Swallowed a Key](#)

by Gantos, Jack

To the constant disappointment of his mother and his teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention or controlling his mood swings when his prescription meds wear off and he starts getting worked up and acting wired.

[Parents Wanted](#)

by Harrar, George

Twelve-year-old Andrew, who has ADD, is adopted by new parents after years of other foster homes and desperately hopes that he will not mess up the situation.

[Sometimes I Drive My Mom Crazy, But I Know She's Crazy About Me: a Self-Esteem Book for ADHD Children](#)

by Shapiro, Lawrence E.

ADHD is one of the most common diagnoses of school-age children and one of the more problematic to treat. ADHD children are typically perceived as "difficult" children, and their poor sense of self-esteem can be as much of a problem as the ADHD itself. This book tells the heart-warming story of a boy who has developed a sense of self-worth by learning to deal with his problems through the help of the adults who care for and about him.

[Taking ADD to School](#)

by Weiner, Ellen

Ben is having trouble concentrating in school. His teachers always tell him to pay attention, and he's having trouble learning cursive writing. A trip to the doctor reveals that Ben has Attention Deficit Disorder (A.D.D.). Written from Ben's perspective, this book is well suited for reading aloud in the classroom.

[The ADD Book for Kids](#)

by Rotner, Shelley

Text and photographs explain what it is like to live with A.D.D., or attention-deficit disorder.

[Waiting for Mr. Goose](#)

by Lears, Laurie

Stephen, who has trouble sitting still and paying attention, surprises himself when he summons up the patience to catch and help an injured goose. Includes a note to adults about children who have difficulty staying focused, including those with ADHD.

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

[All about my brother : an eight-year-old sister's introduction of her brother who has autism](#)

by Peralta, Sarah

J 618.92 PER

An eight-year-old sister's introduction of her brother who has autism

[Anything But Typical](#)

by Baskin, Nora Raleigh

Jason, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of his world.

[Buster and the Amazing Daisy](#)

by Ogaz, Nancy

When Daisy, who is autistic, joins a mainstreamed class and trains Buster the rabbit for a pet show, she faces new challenges and makes new friends.

[Ian's Walk: a story about autism](#)

by Lears, Laurie

A young girl realizes how much she cares for her autistic brother Ian when he gets lost at the park.

[Keisha's doors](#)

by Ellis, Marvie

JEASY SP

[Looking after Louis](#)

by Ely, Lesley

JEASY

Louis has autism, but through imagination, kindness, and a special game of soccer, his classmates find a way to join him in his world. This powerful story highlights the advantages of inclusion for both children with autism and their classmates.

[Mockingbird](#)

by Erskine, Kathryn

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

[My brother Charlie](#)

by Peete, Holly

JEASY PEE

A girl tells what it is like living with her twin brother who has autism and sometimes finds it hard to communicate with words, but who, in most ways, is just like any other boy. Includes authors' note about autism.

[Rules](#)

by Lord, Cynthia

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with an young paraplegic.

[Russell is Extra Special: a Book About Autism for Children](#)

by Amenta, Charles A.

Describes the daily life, likes and dislikes, and habits of Russell Amenta, who is a happy boy despite

being severely autistic.

[Tacos anyone? : an autism story = Alguien quiere tacos? : una historia de autismo](#)

by Ellis, Marvie

JEASY SP

Michael is a four year old boy with autism. His older brother, Thomas, doesn't understand why Michael behaves the way he does. The therapist teaches Thomas how to play with Michael, making sibling time fun again.

[The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time](#)

by Haddon, Mark

YA Fiction HAD

Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.

[The heart's language](#)

by Yamanaka, Lois-Ann

JEASY

A young mute boy and his parents learn the language of love.

[The Reason I Jump](#)

by Higashida, Naoki

A story never before told and a memoir to help change our understanding of the world around us, 13-year-old Naoki Higashida's astonishing, empathetic book takes us into the mind of a boy with severe autism.

[The Survival Guide for Kids with Autism Spectrum Disorders](#)

by Verdick, Elizabeth

This positive, straightforward book offers kids with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) their own comprehensive resource for both understanding their condition and finding tools to cope with the challenges they face every day. Some children with ASDs are gifted; others struggle academically. Some are more introverted, while others try to be social. Some get "stuck" on things, have limited interests, or experience repeated motor movements like flapping or pacing ("stims"). The Survival Guide for Kids with Autism Spectrum Disorders covers all of these areas, with an emphasis on helping children gain new self-understanding and self-acceptance. Meant to be read with a parent, the book addresses questions ("What's an ASD?" "Why me?") and provides strategies for communicating, making and keeping friends, and succeeding in school. Body and brain basics highlight symptom management, exercise, diet, hygiene, relaxation, sleep, and toileting. Emphasis is placed on helping kids handle intense emotions and behaviors and get support from family and their team of helpers when needed. The book includes stories from real kids, fact boxes, helpful checklists, resources, and a glossary. Sections for parents offer more detailed information.

Cerebral Palsy

[Eddie's Blue-Winged Dragon](#)

by Alder, C.S.

A sixth-grader with cerebral palsy becomes the owner of a brass dragon which helps him out in some of the battles he faces due to his handicap.

[Gadget Girl](#)

by Kamata, Suzanne

YA Fiction KAM

Aiko Cassidy, a fourteen-year-old with cerebral palsy, tired of posing for the sculptures that have made her mother famous, dreams of going to Japan to meet her father and become a great manga artist, but takes a life-changing trip to Paris instead

[Howie helps himself](#)

by Fassler, Joan

JEASY

Though he enjoys life with his family and attends school, Howie, a child with cerebral palsy, wants more than anything else to be able to move his wheelchair by himself.

[Living With Cerebral Palsy](#)

by Pimm, Paul

Describes the varying effects of cerebral palsy, how different people manage to live with this condition, and where to get more information.

[Out of my mind](#)

by Draper, Sharon

J FICTION DRA

Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

[Rolling along : the story of Taylor and his wheelchair](#)

by Heelan, Jamee Riggio

Explains how having cerebral palsy affects Taylor, and how getting a wheelchair makes a big difference in helping him get around, do things by himself, and even play basketball with his twin Tyler.

[Say What You Will](#)

by McGover, Camie

Cammie McGovern's insightful young adult debut is a heartfelt and heartbreaking story about how we can all feel lost until we find someone who loves us because of our faults, not in spite of them. Born with cerebral palsy, Amy can't walk without a walker, talk without a voice box, or even fully control her facial expressions. Plagued by obsessive-compulsive disorder, Matthew is consumed with repeated thoughts, neurotic rituals, and crippling fear. Both in desperate need of someone to help them reach out to the world, Amy and Matthew are more alike than either ever realized. When Amy decides to hire student aides to help her in her senior year at Coral Hills High School, these two teens are thrust into each other's lives. As they begin to spend time with each other, what started as a blossoming friendship eventually grows into something neither expected.

[Small Steps](#)

by Sachar, Louis

Three years after being released from Camp Green Lake, Armpit is trying hard to keep his life on track, and the only person who believes in Armpit is Ginny, his ten-year-old disabled neighbor. But when his old pal X-Ray shows up with a tempting plan to make some easy money scalping concert tickets, Armpit reluctantly goes along.

[Stretching Ourselves: Kids with Cerebral Palsy](#)

by Carter, Alden R

Describes cerebral palsy and focuses on the daily lives of three children with varying degrees of this condition.

[Stuck in Neutral](#)

by Trueman, Terry

Fourteen-year-old Shawn McDaniel, who suffers from severe cerebral palsy and cannot function, relates his perceptions of his life, his family, and his condition, especially as he believes his father is planning to kill him.

Chronic Illness

[Allie, the allergic elephant](#)

by Smith, Nicole

JEASY

A story about an elephant who is allergic to peanuts that teaches young children to be aware of their friends' peanut allergies. Mentions foods in which peanuts are hidden ingredients.

[Brianna breathes easy : a story about asthma](#)

by Kroll, Virginia

JEASY

Brianna is excited about playing the lead in her school's Thanksgiving play, but when a terrible coughing fit sends her to the emergency room the Friday before the show, she learns that she has asthma and how to control it.

[Cody the allergic cow](#)

by Smith, Nicole

JEASY

Lactose intolerance; Food allergy; Allergy in children

[I have asthma](#)

by Moore-Mallinos, Jennifer

J 610 MOO

The child in this story suffers from asthma, a chronic condition that sometimes produces frightening attacks. But kids learn that with proper medical supervision and treatment, asthma can be kept under control, and kids who are affected by it can live happy, active, and normal lives.

[Juvenile diabetes](#)

by Glaser, Jason

J 618.9246 GLA

Describes juvenile diabetes, why it occurs, and how it is diagnosed and treated.

[Living With Leukemia](#)

by Wescott, Patsy

Describes the condition of leukemia, how it affects the lives of those who have it, and how to cope with or recover from it.

[Sickle cell disease](#)

by Baldwin, Carol

J 616.1627 BAL

Knowledge promotes understanding among children who are likely to encounter schoolmates with chronic medical conditions. More than just a guide to causes, symptoms, and treatment, this series identifies ways to help, and provides motivating stories of people who've achieved success despite their conditions.

[Singing with Momma Lou](#)

by Altman, Linda Jacobs.

JEASY

Nine-year-old Tamika uses photographs, school yearbooks, movie ticket stubs, and other mementos to try to restore the memory of her grandmother, who has Alzheimer's disease.

[The Goodbye Cancer Garden](#)

by Matthies, Janna

When a mother is diagnosed with breast cancer, she and her family plant a garden and watch it grow through the seasons as she undergoes treatments and gets better.

[The peanut butter jam](#)

by Nassau, Elizabeth Sussman.

JEASY

Sam's in a jam when his classmates work on a project using peanut butter. Sam is allergic to peanuts! This delightful story promotes understanding, tolerance, and sensitivity to the seriousness of allergies and other health issues.

[The peanut-free cafe](#)

by Koster, Gloria

JEASY

This engaging story about a young boy's severe allergy to peanuts and how his classmates help him cope offers an upbeat perspective on a condition that many children must live with each day. Includes a Note from a pediatric allergist.

Communication and Speech

[Bird Boy](#)

by Hill, Elizabeth Starr

Chang, a mute Chinese boy whose father uses cormorants to fish, is pleased when he is finally old enough to help with the Big Catch and the raising of a new bird.

[No such thing as dragons](#)

by Reeve, Philip

J FICTION REE

A young, mute boy who is apprenticed to a dragon-slayer suspects that the winged beasts do not exist, until he--and his master--learn the truth.

[Ruby Mae has something to say](#)

by Small, David

JEASY SMA

Tongue-tied Ruby Mae Foote fulfills her dream of speaking for world peace at the United Nations when her nephew Billy Bob invents a device to solve her speech problem.

[The Vicar of Nibbleswicke](#)

by Dahl, Ronald

The vicar's speech impediment leads to holy hysteria in an otherwise quiet country parish.

Down Syndrome

[Be good to Eddie Lee](#)

by Fleming, Virginia M.

JEASY FLE

Although Christy considered him a pest, when Eddie Lee, a boy with Down's Syndrome, follows her into the woods, he shares several special discoveries with her.

[He's my brother](#)

by Lasker, Joe

JEASY LAS

A young boy describes the experiences of his slow learning younger brother at school and at home.

[I can, can you?](#)

by Pitzer, Marjorie W.

J 616.8588 PIT

This inspirational board book is filled with full-color photos of babies and toddlers with Down syndrome discovering their world and reaching developmental milestones.

[Luke has Down's syndrome](#)

by Powell, Jillian

J 618.9285 POW

Follow young Luke as he learns to read, takes the bus to the playground, and takes part in his weekly Cub Scout meeting.

[Me, Hailey!](#)

by Plucker, Sheri

JEASY

An understanding teacher helps her students welcome Hailey, a five-year-old with Down Syndrome who is excited about starting kindergarten.

[My friend Isabelle](#)

by Woloson, Eliza

JEASY

The true story of two friends--Isabelle, who has Down syndrome, and Charlie, who does not. They like to do many of the same things, but like most friends, they are also different from one another. This book celebrates friendship and how similarities and differences make friendships special.

[My sister, Alicia May](#)

by Tupper Ling, Nancy

JEASY TUP

Older sister Rachel tells the story of her relationship with Alicia, her younger sister who is very different and very special because she has Down syndrome.

[Victoria's day](#)

by Campos, Maria de Fatima

J 372.216 CAM

Like any other preschooler, Victoria is engaged by the world around her, excited to play with her friends, sometimes happy, and sometimes not. But unlike her peers she has Down's Syndrome. This thoughtful book follows Victoria on her typical day as she integrates into a mainstream nursery school. Young readers can compare and contrast their own experiences with Victoria as she reads a book, paints, bakes biscuits, and plays games. Though she may look a little different, the book shows that Victoria is really not so different after all.

[We'll paint the octopus red](#)

by Stuve-Bodeen, Stephanie

JEASY BOD

Emma and her father discuss what they will do when the new baby arrives, but they adjust their expectations when he is born with Down syndrome.

Emotional Challenges

[I don't know why-- I guess I'm shy](#)

by Cain, Barbara

JEASY

Having been worried about bothering his neighbors by talking to them, a shy boy searches the neighborhood for his lost dog and finds the courage to speak. Includes suggestions for helping a child overcome shyness through use of this book and other activities.

[The blue day book for kids](#)

by Greive, Bradley

J 152.4 GRE

Striking animal photographs and inspirational thoughts will help any kid who needs cheering up.

[The boy who didn't want to be sad](#)

by Goldblatt, Rob

JEASY

A boy gets rid of everything that might make him sad and is sad anyway until he realizes that those things are also what makes him happy, and one emotion is impossible without the other.

[When I feel afraid](#)

by Meiners, Cheri J.

J 152.46 MEI

Explains that many things can be frightening and provides examples of what one can do to feel less afraid, such as asking for help from a person one trusts. Includes information and extension activities for parents or teachers.

[When I feel sad](#)

by Spelman, Cornelia

JEASY

A young guinea pig describes situations that make him sad, how it feels to be sad, and how he can feel better.

[When I feel scared](#)

by Spelman, Cornelia

JEASY SPE

A child describes situations that bring about fear, how it feels to be scared, and what can make things better.

Epilepsy and Seizures

[Becky the brave : a story about epilepsy](#)

by Lears, Laurie

JEASY

Nothing seems to scare Sarah's big sister Becky, until having an epileptic seizure makes her reluctant to return to school, and so Sarah summons her own courage to explain the disease to the other students.

[Taking seizure disorders to school : a story about epilepsy](#)

by Gosselin, Kim

Uses a simple story about a young girl at school to present information about epilepsy.

Hearing Loss and Deafness

[baa baa black sheep](#)

by Kubler, Annie

J 419 KUB

Using simple sign language, children who communicate before they speak have a head start in their development. Help your child to develop a basic sign vocabulary by singing familiar nursery rhymes while singing along.

[Being me](#)

by Broski, Julie

JEASY

A young girl tells what it is like being her, describing the things she likes to do.

[Dad and me in the morning](#)

by Lakin, Pat

JEASY LAK

A deaf boy and his father share a special time as they watch the sun rise at the beach.

[Dina the deaf dinosaur](#)

by Addabbo, Carole

JEASY

Because her parents would not learn sign language, Dina the deaf dinosaur runs away from home and becomes friends with an owl, a mole, and a chipmunk.

[Discovering Sign Language](#)

by Greene, Laura

Discusses the development of sign language and describes how it is used in conjunction with finger spelling, speech-reading, and other forms of communication to help individuals with impaired hearing.

[Elana's ears, or, How I became the best big sister in the world](#)

by Lowell, Gloria Roth.

JEASY

Lacey the family dog is jealous of the new baby that her human parents brought home, until she discovers that the baby cannot hear.

[Helen Keller: Humanitarian](#)

by Nicholson, Lois

J B KEL

The strong personality traits of Helen Keller that allowed her to rise above her physical handicaps are stressed in this biography of a remarkable woman. Helen Adams Keller was totally blind and deaf from the age of 19 months, but with selfless dedication of teacher Anne Sullivan, Keller was able to find her way out of a world of darkness and silence.

[I have a sister - my sister is deaf](#)

by Peterson, Jeanne Whitehouse

A young girl describes how her deaf sister experiences everyday things.

[Itsy bitsy spider](#)

by Kubler, Annie

JEASY

A stuffed toy black sheep makes the rounds of adorable babies from many cultures as they demonstrate signs for the words "black," "sheep" and the number "three," among others.

[Lester's dog](#)

by Hesse, Karen

JEASY HES

A boy overcomes his fear of Lester's fierce dog when he has to protect an abandoned kitten.

[Ludwig Van Beethoven: Musical Pioneer](#)

by Greene, Carol

A simple biography of a great composer who had hearing loss.

[Mandy](#)

by Booth, Barbara D.

Hearing-impaired Mandy risks going out into the scary night, during an impending storm, to look for her beloved grandmother's lost pin.

[More Simple Signs](#)

by Wheeler, Cindy

Teaches twenty-nine signs from American Sign Language with illustrations and useful hints for remembering them.

[Moses goes to the circus](#)

by Millman, Isaac

JEAST

Moses, who is deaf, has a good time with his family at the circus, where they communicate using sign language. Includes illustrations of some of the signs they use.

[Moses sees a play](#)

by Millman, Isaac

JEASY

Moses and his classmates, who are deaf or hard of hearing, attend a play at their school, and Moses makes a new friend from another class.

[Out for a walk](#)

by Votry, Kim

J 419 VOT

The team that created "Baby's First Signs" presents these board books that help toddlers accelerate their grasp of language. The familiar hatted character returns, signing lessons about colors and nature. Full color.

[PROBABLY THE WORLD'S BEST STORY ABOUT A DOG AND THE GIRL WHO LOVED ME](#)

by Smith, D. J.

J FICTION SMI

The further adventures and misadventures of 12-year-old Paolo, his 6-year-old brother Georgie, and their 9-year-old deaf cousin Billy as they try to find their missing dog, cope with a new paper route, and discover romance in their small California town in 1951. Sequel to BOYS OF SAN JOAQUIN

[Silent Lotus](#)

by Lee, Jeanne M.

JEASY LEE

Although she cannot speak or hear, Lotus trains as a Khmer court dancer and becomes eloquent in dancing out the legends of the gods.

[The deaf musicians](#)

by Seeger, Pete

JEASY

Lee, a jazz pianist, has to leave his band when he begins losing his hearing, but he meets a deaf saxophone player in a sign language class and together they form a snazzy new band.

[The handmade alphabet](#)

by Rankin, Laura

JEASY RAN

Presents the handshape for each letter of the American manual alphabet accompanied by an object whose name begins with that letter.

[Thomas Alva Edison](#)

by Buranelli, Vincent

A biography of the inventor who changed the world in which he lived with such revolutionary inventions as the phonograph, electric lighting, and motion pictures.

[Twinkle twinkle, little star](#)

by Kubler, Annie

J 419 KUB

Festive watercolors show toddlers singing and signing each song. Black arrows and squiggles depict the motions that their hands should make.

Learning Disabilities

[Back to Front and Upside Down!](#)

by Alexander, Claire

While the rest of the class makes birthday cards for the principal, Stanley struggles with his words and letters.

[Double Dutch](#)

by Draper, Sharon

J FICTION

Three eighth-grade friends, preparing for the International Double Dutch Championship jump rope competition in their home town of Cincinnati, Ohio, cope with Randy's missing father, Delia's inability to read, and Yo Yo's encounter with the class bullies.

[Dyslexia](#)

by Moragne, Wendy

J 616.8553 MOR

Explains the nature of dyslexia, the various forms of treatment, and the many challenges faced by those living with this condition. Includes case studies and interviews.

[Fish in a Tree](#)

by Hunt, Lynda Mullaly

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright,

creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there's a lot more to her -- and to everyone -- than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike.

[Lily and the mixed-up letters](#)

by Hodge, Deborah

JEASY

Lily has trouble reading and is afraid of reading aloud on Parent Day. Her encouraging mom and some learning strategies help Lily gain confidence and skill.

[Ms. McCaw learns to draw](#)

by Zemach, Kaethe

JEASY ZEM

Dudley Ellington struggles to learn anything at school, but when his very patient teacher, Mrs. McGraw, is unable to draw a face on the board, he helps her figure out how to do it.

[The Alphabet War : a story about dyslexia](#)

by Robb, Diane

JEASY

Learning to read is a great struggle for Adam, but with expert help, hard work, and belief in himself, he wins "The Alphabet War." Includes information about dyslexia.

[The Vicar of Nibbleswicke](#)

by Dahl, Ronald

The vicar's speech impediment leads to holy hysteria in an otherwise quiet country parish.

Life-Threatening Illness

[After ever after](#)

by Sonnenblick, Jordan

YOUNG ADULT FICTION SON

Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by a new friend, Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa.

[Our mom is getting better](#)

by Silver, Alex

J 616.994 SIL

As their mother recovers from cancer, her children celebrate the milestones their family has reached and reflect on the different ways their mother's illness, treatment, and recovery impacted their lives.

Mental Retardation or Developmental Delay

[Ben, king of the river](#)

by Gifaldi, David

JEASY

Chad experiences a range of emotions when he goes camping with his parents and his five-year-old

mentally disabled brother Ben who has many developmental problems.

[What's wrong with Timmy?](#)

by Shriver, Maria

J PIC+

Making friends with a mentally disabled boy helps Kate learn that the two of them have a lot in common.

Multiple/Severe Disabilities

[Extraordinary Friends](#)

by Rogers, Fred

J 362.4083 ROG

Focuses on people who are different, who might use equipment such as wheelchairs or special computers, who are more like you than you might think, and suggests ways to interact with them.

[Helen Keller: Humanitarian](#)

by Nicholson, Lois

J B KEL

The strong personality traits of Helen Keller that allowed her to rise above her physical handicaps are stressed in this biography of a remarkable woman. Helen Adams Keller was totally blind and deaf from the age of 19 months, but with selfless dedication of teacher Anne Sullivan, Keller was able to find her way out of a world of darkness and silence.

[Views From Our Shoes: Growing Up With a Brother or Sister With Special Needs](#)

by Rogers, Fred

J 362.196 VIE

"I can't imagine having a plain old sister, " writes ten--year--old Ryan Clearwater. He is one of 45 siblings in View From Our Shoes who share their experiences as the brother or sister of someone with a disability. The kids whose essays are featured here range in age from four to eighteen and are the siblings of youngsters with a variety of special needs. Their personal tales introduce young siblings to others like them, perhaps for the first time, and allow them to compare experiences. A glossary of disabilities provides easy--to--understand definitions of many of the conditions mentioned.

[What's wrong with Timmy?](#)

by Shriver, Maria

J PIC+

Making friends with a mentally disabled boy helps Kate learn that the two of them have a lot in common.

Orthopedic/Neurological Impairments

[Christopher Reeve: Hollywood's Man of Courage](#)

by Wren, Laura Lee

J BIO REEVE

A biography of the actor famous for playing Superman, discussing his activities before and after the accident that paralyzed him and focusing on his determination to go on with his life despite his problems.

[Franklin Delano Roosevelt](#)

by Freedman, Russell

Photographs and text trace the life of Franklin Delano Roosevelt from his birth in 1882 through his youth, early political career, and presidency, to his death in Warm Springs, Georgia, in 1945.

[SPINAbilities: a young persons guide to spina bifida](#)

by Lutkenhoff, Marlene

A guide to coping with the medical, self-care, and emotional issues of spinal bifida, with an emphasis on becoming as independent as possible.

[Stephen Hawking: unlocking the universe](#)

by Simon, Sheridan

Examines the education, research, and personal life of the renowned British theoretical physicist who has taken the study of cosmology farther than most in his field, despite his need for wheelchair and computer in order to travel and communicate.

[The Elephant Man](#)

by Drimmer, Frederick

J BIOGRAPHY MERRICK

Traces the history of Joseph Merrick, called the Elephant Man because of a deformity, from his birth in central England to his death in a London hospital in 1890.

Orthopedic/Physical Disability

[Annie loses her leg but finds her way](#)

by Philipson, Sandra J.

JEASY

Cancer/English springer spaniels

[Arnie and the new kid](#)

by Carlson, Nancy L.

JEASY CAR

When an accident requires Arnie to use crutches, he begins to understand the limits and possibilities of his new classmate, who has a wheelchair.

[Be quiet, Marina!](#)

by Debear, Kirsten

JEASY

A noisy little girl with cerebral palsy and a quiet little girl with Down Syndrome learn to play together and eventually become best friends.

[Dad and me in the morning](#)

by Lakin, Pat

JEASY LAK

A deaf boy and his father share a special time as they watch the sun rise at the beach.

[Dewey Doo-it helps Owlie fly again](#)

by Wenger, Brahm

JEASY WEN

Dewey gets his new kite caught in a tall tree. When he asks his friend Owlie for help, he finds Owlie has been in an accident and can no longer flap his wings.

[Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule](#)

by Robinet, Harriette

Born with a withered leg and hand, Pascal, who is about twelve years old, joins other former slaves in a search for a farm and the freedom which it promises.

[Helping Sophia](#)

by Suen, Anastasia

JEASY

When Sophia's helper is absent, her fellow third-graders help out by learning how to push her wheelchair.

[Herramientas que me ayudan](#)

by Schaefer, Adam

J SP 681 SCH

Herramientas para las personas que no pueden ver / tools for people who can't see -- Herramientas para las personas que no pueden oír / tools for people who can't hear -- Herramientas para las personas que no pueden caminar / tools for people who can't walk.

[Howie helps himself](#)

by Fassler, Joan

JEASY

Though he enjoys life with his family and attends school, Howie, a child with cerebral palsy, wants more than anything else to be able to move his wheelchair by himself.

[It's ok to be me! : just like you, I can do almost anything !](#)

by Moore-Mallinos, Jennifer

J 306.8 MOO

The story of a child in a wheelchair who explain how he can do almost anything that other children can do.

[Jungle School](#)

by Laird, Elizabeth

JEASY

New at school, Jani shows her monkey classmates all the ways that her wheelchair makes her special.

[Mama Zooms](#)

by Cowen-Fletcher, Jane

JEASY COW

A boy's wonderful mama takes him zooming everywhere with her, because her wheelchair is a zooming machine.

[Mi Abuelita Tiene Ruedas](#)

by Molina, Silvia

No todas las abuelitas resultan tan simpáticas y cariñosas como la de María. Hay algunas que gruñen como ogros, otras que no dicen ni "pío". La de María, además de ser alegre, tiene ruedas sin ser bicicleta ni patín.

[My pal, Victor \(Mi Amigo, Victor\)](#)

by Bertrand, Diane Gonzales.

JEASY SP

Two Latino boys experience carefree camaraderie despite one boy's disability. Fun and friendship overpower physical limitations. (Also titled: Mi Amigo, Victor).

[Nathan's wish : a story about cerebral palsy](#)

by Lears, Laurie

JEASY

A boy with cerebral palsy helps out at a raptor rehabilitation center and is inspired himself when an owl that cannot fly finds another purpose in life.

[Nice wheels](#)

by Hooks, Gwendolyn

JEASY

The classmates of a new boy at school find that, although he is in a wheelchair, he can do what they do.

[Out of my mind](#)

by Draper, Sharon

J FICTION DRA

Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

[Peter's secret](#)

by Duchesne, Christiane

JEASY

Peter has not told anyone the secret of why he is different from other children, but when a new student joins his class, he wonders if he can tell her.

[Saffy's Angel](#)

by McKay, Hilary

LARGE TYPE J FICTION

After thirteen-year-old Saffron learns that she was adopted, her relationship with her eccentric, artistic family changes and this results in her traveling to Italy, the place of her birth.

[Sea crow](#)

by Stewart, Shannon

J PIC+

Jessica's love of the beach, just down the road from her new home, helps her and her younger brother to overcome their fears.

[Seal surfer](#)

by Foreman, Michael

JEASY FOR

Although he is on crutches, a boy goes to the beach with his grandfather, where they watch a seal being born, and over the following seasons, the boy and the seal develop a special bond.

[Silent Lotus](#)

by Lee, Jeanne M.

JEASY LEE

Although she cannot speak or hear, Lotus trains as a Khmer court dancer and becomes eloquent in dancing out the legends of the gods.

[Sosu's call](#)

by Asare, Meshack

J PIC+

When a great storm threatens, Sosu, an African boy who is unable to walk, joins his dog Fusa in helping save their village.

[Using a wheelchair](#)

by Royston, Angela

J 617.033 ROY

Using a Wheelchair is a condition many people live with. Find out what life is like for some who uses a wheelchair.

[Wheelchair Track Events](#)

by Labanowich, Sam

J 796.4208 LAB

Introduces wheelchair track events, relates the history of these activities for the physically handicapped, and discusses the rules, equipment, and training needed to participate safely.

Prematurity

[Evan Early](#)

by Wojahn, Rebecca Hogue.

JEASY

When Natalie's baby brother is born too soon, she tries to wait patiently to teach him everything he will need to know, but she misses her parents and begins to resent the time they spend with him at the hospital.

[My baby sister is a preemie](#)

by Amadeo, Diana M.

JEASY

When her baby sister is born too soon, Sarah does not understand what is going on until a nurse explains the tubes and wires and her mother reminds her that God is with tiny Amy, even in the hospital.

Prosopagnosia (Face Blindness)

[Bone Gap](#)

by Ruby, Laura

Bone Gap is the story of Roza, a beautiful girl who is taken from a quiet midwestern town and imprisoned by a mysterious man, and Finn, the only witness, who cannot forgive himself for being unable to identify her kidnapper. As we follow them through their melancholy pasts, their terrifying presents, their uncertain futures, acclaimed author Laura Ruby weaves a heartbreaking tale of love and loss, magic and mystery, regret and forgiveness--a story about how the face the world sees is never the sum of who we are.

[Holding Up the Universe](#)

by Niven, Jennifer

A boy with face blindness and a girl who struggles with weight fall in love.

Psychological Disorders

[A thought is just a thought : a story of living with OCD](#)

by Talley, Leslie

J 618.9285 TAL

The first book for children and parents that confronts OCD, a surprisingly common childhood illness. It is an excellent resource for parents and for doctors who wish better understand how to help children deal with this debilitating psychological illness.

[Betty lou blue](#)

by Crocker, Nancy

JEASY

Teased by other children because of her big feet, only Betty Lou can save her tormentors one snowy day.

[Gentle Willow : a story for children about dying](#)

by Mills, Joyce C.

JEASY

Amanda the squirrel is upset that she is going to lose her friend Gentle Willow, but the tree wizards give advice that help both her and Gentle Willow accept the change that comes with death.

[I miss you : a first look at death](#)

by Thomas, Pat

J 306.9 THO

When a close friend or family member dies, it can be difficult for children to express their feelings. This book helps children understand that death is a part of life.

[I was so mad](#)

by Mayer, Mercer

JEASY

A child tries a variety of ways to dissolve anger.

[If Nathan were here](#)

by Fritts, Mary Bahr

JEASY

A young boy grieves the loss of his best friend and thinks about how things would be if he were still alive.

[Josh's smiley faces : a story about anger](#)

by Ditta-Donahue, Gina

J 152.4 DIT

With the help of smiley-face charts, Josh learns to express his anger appropriately.

[Mr. Worry : a story about OCD](#)

by Niner, Holly L.

JEASY

Eight-year-old Kevin is frustrated by his need to check things and repeat actions over and over until a counselor diagnoses obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and teaches him ways to manage this condition. Includes a note for parents and teachers explaining OCD.

[My mouth is a volcano!](#)

by Cook, Julia

JEASY

This book teaches young children to manage their thoughts and words without interrupting.

[Stop picking on me : a first look at bullying](#)

by Thomas, Pat

J 302.3 THO

This picture book explores the difficult issue of bullying among children. It helps kids accept the normal fears and worries that accompany bullying, and suggests ways to resolve this upsetting experience.

[The Bully Blockers Club](#)

by Bateman, Teresa

JEASY

When Lottie is bothered by a bully at school, she helps start a club where everyone is welcome.

[When I feel angry](#)

by Spelman, Cornelia

JEASY SPE

A little rabbit describes what makes her angry and the different ways she can control her anger.

[Why tease?](#)

by Amos, Janine

J 302.54 AMO / K-3 grade

Presents two stories in which the children in Mrs. Casey's class learn why it is not right to tease others and what to do if they are being teased.

Temporary Disability or Illness

[My trip to the hospital](#)

by Mayer, Mercer

JEASY

Little Critter breaks his leg playing soccer and must make his first trip to the hospital.

[Sadie's sore throat](#)

by Cowan, Charlotte

JEASY

Sadie gets a sore throat and her worried mother takes her to see their pediatrician, a friendly hippopotamus named Dr. Hippocrates.

[The Little elephant with the big earache](#)

by Cowan, Charlotte

JEASY

After a busy afternoon of making mud castles with his cousins, little Eddie awakens at night with a terrible earache. His mother takes excellent care of him and Dr. Hippo reassures them both the next day.

Service Animals

[A Guide Dog Goes to School](#)

by Smith, Elizabeth Simpson

Follows a puppy as she goes through the stages of training to become a guide dog for a blind person.

[Looking out for Sarah](#)

by Lang, Glenna

JEASY

Describes a day in the life of a seeing eye dog, from going with his owner to the grocery store and post office, to visiting a class of school children, and playing ball. Also describes their three-hundred mile walk from Boston to New York.

[PROBABLY THE WORLD'S BEST STORY ABOUT A DOG AND THE GIRL WHO LOVED ME](#)

by Smith, D. J.

J FICTION SMI

The further adventures and misadventures of 12-year-old Paolo, his 6-year-old brother Georgie, and their 9-year-old deaf cousin Billy as they try to find their missing dog, cope with a new paper route, and discover romance in their small California town in 1951. Sequel to BOYS OF SAN JOAQUIN

Tourette Syndrome

[I can't stop! : a story about Tourette Syndrome](#)

by Niner, Holly L.

JEASY

A boy is diagnosed with Tourette syndrome and learns about constructive ways he can manage his condition. Includes nonfiction information from a physician.

Vision Impairments

[A Guide Dog Goes to School](#)

by Smith, Elizabeth Simpson

Follows a puppy as she goes through the stages of training to become a guide dog for a blind person.

[A Picture Book of Louis Braille](#)

by Adler, David A.

J BIO BRAILLE

Presents the life of the nineteenth-century Frenchman, accidentally blinded as a child, who originated the raised dot system of reading and writing used throughout the world by the blind.

[Brian's bird](#)

by Davis, Patricia Anne.

JEASY

Eight-year-old Brian, who is blind, learns how to take care of his new parakeet and comes to realize that his older brother, while sometimes careless, is not so bad after all.

[Cakes and miracles : a Purim tale](#)

by Goldin, Barbara Diamond

JEASY GOL

Young, blind Hershel finds that he has special gifts he can use to help his mother during the Jewish holiday of Purim. Features a recipe for hamantashen.

[Cierra Los Ojos](#)

by Escriv´, Victoria P´rez

JEASY SP ESC

Un niño trata de explicar a su hermano ciego cómo son las cosas, pero su hermano v´ el mundo de manera diferente. Su madre propone que el niño cierre los ojos para comprender el mundo de su hermano. A young boy tries to explain to his brother what certain things are, but his brother has his own way of looking at things that don't seem to match, until their mother makes a suggestion to help the boy see things from his brother's perspective.

[Good luck glasses](#)

by London, Sara

JEASY

Seven-year-old Nomi decides that she is lucky when the new glasses she gets help her see things more clearly.

[Helen Keller: Humanitarian](#)

by Nicholson, Lois

J B KEL

The strong personality traits of Helen Keller that allowed her to rise above her physical handicaps are stressed in this biography of a remarkable woman. Helen Adams Keller was totally blind and deaf from the age of 19 months, but with selfless dedication of teacher Anne Sullivan, Keller was able to find her way out of a world of darkness and silence.

[Knots on a counting rope](#)

by Martin, Bill

JEASY MAR

In this poignant story, the counting rope is a metaphor for the passage of time and for a boy's emerging confidence in facing his blindness.

[Listen for the bus : David's story](#)

by McMahon, Patricia

JEASY MCM

A photo essay about David, who is blind, as he begins kindergarten.

[Living With Blindness](#)

by Wescott, Patsy

J 617.712 WES

Explains the condition of blindness, its possible causes, and how it affects the everyday lives of those who are dealing with it.

[Lola and I](#)

by Segre, Chiara Valentina

JEASY SEG

A story about the special friendship between a young girl and her dog, featuring a surprise ending.

[Looking out for Sarah](#)

by Lang, Glenna

JEASY

Describes a day in the life of a seeing eye dog, from going with his owner to the grocery store and post office, to visiting a class of school children, and playing ball. Also describes their three-hundred mile walk from Boston to New York.

[Mandy Sue Day](#)

by Karim, Roberta

JEASY

Using her senses of taste, hearing, touch, and smell, a blind girl enjoys a special day on the farm.

[Melanie](#)

by Carrick, Carol

JEASY CAR

When her grandfather goes in search of one who can heal her of her blindness and fails to return, Melanie follows and rescues him from a hideous troll.

[My travelin' eye](#)

by Kostecki-Shaw, Jenny Sue

JEASY

Jenny Sue loves that her "travelin' eye" lets her see the world in a special way, and so she is not happy when her teacher suggests that her parents take her to an ophthalmologist to fix the lazy eye.

[Out of Darkness: the Story of Louis Braille](#)

by Freedman, Russell

A biography of the nineteenth-century Frenchman who, having been blinded himself at the age of three, went on to develop a system of raised dots on paper that enabled blind people to read and write.

[Sing to the stars](#)

by Barrett, Mary Brigid

JEASY BAR

When Ephram becomes friends with a blind man in his neighborhood and finds out that Mr. Washington was a famous pianist who hasn't touched a piano for a long time, he resolves to get the

man back on stage.

[Tangerine](#)

by Bloor, Edward

YA SP FICTION BLO

Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.

[The black book of colors](#)

by Cottin, Menena

Translation of El libro negro de los colores. This title invites readers to imagine living without sight through remarkable illustrations done with raised lines and descriptions of colors based on imagery. Braille letters accompany the illustrations and a full Braille alphabet offers sighted readers help reading along with their fingers.

[The blind hunter](#)

by Rodanas, Kristina

JEASY

A blind African hunter teaches a young man how to see by using his other senses.

[The hickory chair](#)

by Fraustino, Lisa Rowe

JEASY

Luis, who is blind, knows his grandmother by her scent, her voice, and her stories. And he knows she loves him. But when Gran passes away and leaves notes hidden in her things for each family member to find, Luis seems to be the only one forgotten. But years later when, as grandfather himself, Luis's faith in his grandmother is proved right. Full-color illustrations.

[The patch](#)

by Headley, Justina Chen.

JEASY

The kids at school want to know why Becca is wearing glasses and a patch. Instead of telling them she has amblyopia, Becca leads her friends on imaginative adventures to explain her new fashion accessory.

[The pirate of kindergarten](#)

by Lyon, George Ella

JEASY LYO

Ginny's eyes play tricks on her, making her see everything double, but when she goes to vision screening at school and discovers that not everyone sees this way, she learns that her double vision can be cured.

[TIMOTHY OF THE CAY](#)

by Taylor, Theodore

Having survived being blinded and shipwrecked on a tiny Caribbean island with the old black man Timothy, 12-year-old white Phillip is rescued and hopes to regain his sight with an operation. Alternate

chapters follow the life of Timothy from his days as a young cabin boy in the early 1900's.
Prequel/Sequel to THE CAY

Disabilities in General

[Daniel's world : a book about children with disabilities](#)

by Deloach, Kathleen

JEASY

Daniel's World is a picture book that teaches children to understand other children with disabilities. Daniel's body looks different. He's had lots of operations, and sometimes he has pain and feels sad. Kids can learn how to be sweet to Daniel and other kids whose bodies look or work different.

[Looking out for Sarah](#)

by Lang, Glenna

JEASY

Describes a day in the life of a seeing eye dog, from going with his owner to the grocery store and post office, to visiting a class of school children, and playing ball. Also describes their three-hundred mile walk from Boston to New York.

[Susan laughs](#)

by Willis, Jeanne

JEASY

Rhyming couplets describe a wide range of common emotions and activities experienced by a little girl who uses a wheelchair.

Differences and Similarities

[A rainbow of friends](#)

by Hallinan, P. K.

JEASY

A story in verse about how all friends are special and valuable regardless of differences or difficulties.

[It's okay to be different](#)

by Parr, Todd

JEASY

Illustrations and brief text describe all kinds of differences that are "okay," such as "It's Okay to be a different color," "It's Okay to need some help," "It's Okay to be adopted," and "It's Okay to have a Different nose."

[Little Squarehead](#)

by O'Neill, Peggy

JEASY

Taunted by children at school, a sad little girl with a square head retreats to the forest and the comfort of her animal friends. There, guided by a mystical voice, she discovers a diamond sparkling in her heart and receives the gifts of Courage, Confidence, and Compassion.

Other Disabilities

[Freak the Mighty](#)

by Philbrick, W.R.

J FICTION

At the beginning of eighth grade, learning disabled Max and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when they combine forces they make a powerful team.

[I FUNNY: A MIDDLE SCHOOL STORY](#)

by Patterson, James

J FICTION PAT

Resolving to become the world's greatest stand-up comedian despite less-than-funny challenges in his life, wheelchair-bound middle school student Jamie Grimm endures bullying from his mean-spirited cousin and hopes he will be fairly judged when he enters a local comedy contest.

[We're All Wonders](#)

by Palacio, R.L.

JEASY PAL

Augie enjoys the company of his dog, Daisy, and using his imagination, but painfully endures the taunts of his peers because of his facial deformity.

[Wonder](#)

by Palacio, R.L.

J FICTION PAL

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.