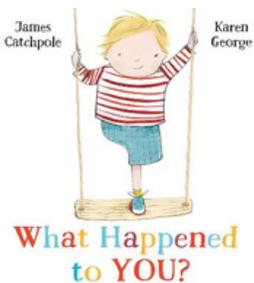


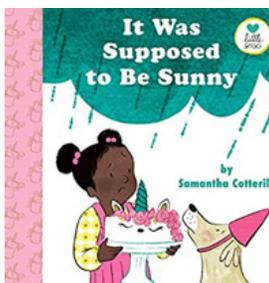
Disability Reads

Books for kids with and without disabilities

Picture Books



Catchpole, James*. *What Happened to You?* Joe is fed up of only ever being asked about his leg. All he wants to do is play Pirates. But as usual, one after the other, all the children ask him: what happened to you? Finally they realize that it's a question Joe just doesn't want to answer—and that Joe is playing a rather good game—one that they can join in with if they can stop fixating on his missing leg.



Cotterill, Samantha*. *It Was Supposed to be Sunny* (series). Laila feels like her sparkly sunshine birthday celebration is on the brink of ruin when it starts to storm. Then, an accident with her cake makes her want to call the whole thing off. But with the help of her mom and a little alone time with her service dog, she knows she can handle this.

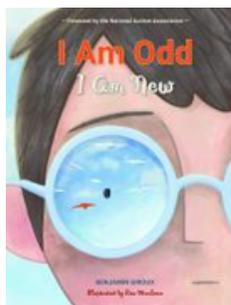


Filippone, Nicole*. *Rosalee the Seeker* (series). Rosalee's a little sensory seeker with a BIG heart...except she sometimes does things she doesn't mean to do. A little help from Ms. Kat to learn how to move her body and organize herself makes a big difference!

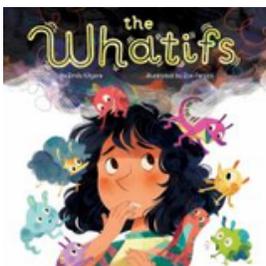
Fritsch, Kelly*. *We Move Together*. Fair is everyone getting ice cream; unfair is a step that blocks people in scooters or wheelchairs from getting some. Follow a mixed-ability group of kids as they creatively negotiate everyday barriers and find joy and connection in disability culture and community.



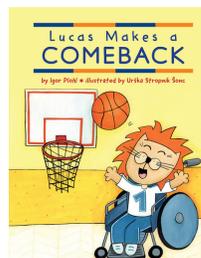
Gianferrari, Maria. *Hello Goodbye Dog*. For Zara's dog, Moose, nothing is more important than being with his favorite girl. So when Zara goes to school, Moose escapes and rushes to her side. But dogs aren't allowed at school and Moose has to go home. With a little bit of training and one great idea, the two friends find a way to be together all day long.



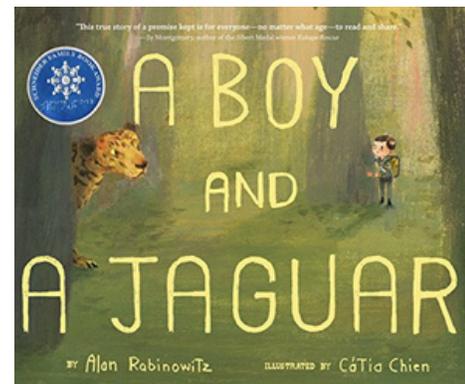
Giroux, Benjamin*. *I am Odd, I am New*. Through the eyes of 10-year-old Benjamin Giroux, being odd is different, and different is a good thing. This is what the then fifth-grader hoped to convey in his poem, beginning every few sentences with "I am," about what it is like to live with autism.



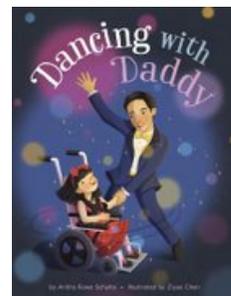
Kilgore, Emily*. *The Whatifs*. Cora is constantly worrying about everything. Because of this, the Whatifs love her. They sneak up to her and give her all kinds of doubts: big, small, likely, or impossible. As she prepares for an upcoming piano recital, the Whatifs cling on tighter and drag her down, making her anxious about messing up during the concert. Will she be able to change her worry-filled thoughts into hopeful ones?



Plohl, Igor*. *Lucas Makes a Comeback* (series). When Lucas falls off a ladder, he damages his spine and can't use his legs anymore. He can't stand on them and he can't walk on them. After a lot of work, Lucas can drive a car, play sports, and be a teacher again, all from his wheelchair.



Rabinowitz, Alan*. *A Boy and a Jaguar*. Alan loves animals, but the great cat house at the Bronx Zoo makes him sad. Why are they all alone in empty cages? Are they being punished? More than anything, he wants to be their champion—their voice—but he stutters uncontrollably. The only time he is fluent is when he's talking with animals. Now a renowned cat conservationist, Alan reflects on his childhood.



Shulte, Anitra Rowe. *Dancing with Daddy*. Elsie can't wait to go to her first father-daughter dance. She picked out the perfect dress and has been practicing swirling and swaying in her wheelchair. With gestures and augmentative communication, she shares her excitement with her family. But when a winter storm comes, will the dance go on?

Additional Resources

For families and classes to share together: Learn how to evaluate a book featuring disabled characters: bit.ly/EvalDisabilityBooks

More information for adults: Additional recommendations and anti-recs written by disabled people: bit.ly/DisabilityKidLitBlog

Two opinions on why *Rules* is not included: bit.ly/ReadRulesOPPL

One example why *Wonder* is not included: bit.ly/ProperNounBlogWonder

*This creator identifies as disabled.

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Learn more: oppl.org/kids-lists



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Fiction

Carter, Caela*. *Fifty-four Things Wrong With Gwendolyn Rogers*. No one can figure out what Gwendolyn Rogers's problem is. But Gwendolyn knows she doesn't have just one thing wrong with her, she has fifty-four, at least according to a confidential school report. So Gwendolyn needs a plan, because if she doesn't get these fifty-four things under control, she's not going to be able to go to horse camp this summer.

Choldenko, Jennifer. *Al Capone Does My Shirts*. (series) Moose Flannagan moves with his family to Alcatraz so his dad can work as a prison guard and his autistic sister, Natalie, can attend a special school. All he wants to do is live up to his parents' expectations, and stay out of trouble. But on Alcatraz, trouble is never very far away.

Draper, Sharon. *Out of My Mind*. (series) Eleven-year-old Melody can't walk, talk, or write, because she has cerebral palsy. But she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She's the smartest kid in her whole school, but NO ONE knows it. She's determined to let everyone know it...somehow.

Hunt, Lynda Mullaly. *Fish in a Tree*. 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. But her newest teacher sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and how to navigate life with dyslexia.

Kane, Karen. *Charlie and Frog: A Mystery*. (series) Charlie heads into his grandparents' local village where a frightened old woman gives him a desperate message in American Sign Language. Charlie needs to learn ASL fast to keep up with quick-witted Frog, and Frog needs to gather her detective know-how to break the case before it's too late.

Kapit, Sarah*. *Get a Grip, Vivy Cohen!* Ever since her hero, Major League star pitcher VJ Capello, taught her how to throw a knuckleball at a family fun day for kids with autism, Vivy's been perfecting her pitch. She writes to VJ and tells him how her mom says she can't play because she's a girl and because she has autism. But then, Vivy meets a Little League coach who invites her to join his team, and VJ starts writing back.

Kelly, Lynne. *Song for a Whale*. Twelve-year-old Iris is a tech genius, but because she's the only deaf person in her school, people often treat her like she's not very smart. When she learns about a whale who is unable to speak to other whales, Iris understands how he must feel. She decides to invent a way to "sing" to him, but how will she travel 3,000 miles to do it?

McNicoll, Elle*. *A Kind of a Spark*. When Addie discovers that her small Scottish town used to burn witches simply because they were different, she refuses to let them be forgotten. Her autism, and her sister's, create a special link to this history.

O'Donnell, Liam. *West Meadows Detectives: The Case of the Snack Snatcher* (Early Chapter series). Meet Myron: a third-grade detective who loves logic, facts and solving mysteries. He does not love new things. Unfortunately, everything is new this year, including a new school. But when the school kitchen is burgled, leaving the morning snacks nowhere to be found, Myron gets his chance to crack the case.

Stroker, Ali* and Stacy Davidowitz. *The Chance to Fly*. Nat stumbles upon auditions for a kids' production of *Wicked*, one of her favorite musicals ever and gets into the ensemble! The other cast members are super cool and inclusive. But when things go awry a week before opening night, will Nat be able to "Defy Gravity?"

Ursu, Anne. *The Real Boy*. Oscar is a shop boy for the most powerful magician in the village; his world is small, but he likes it that way. The real world is vast, strange, and unpredictable. But now that is changing: children are falling ill, and something sinister lurks in the forest. Now even magic may not be enough to save them.

Graphic Novels

Agarwal, Veronica* and Lee Durfey-Lavoie*. *Just Roll with It*. Maggie just wants to get through her first year of middle school. But between finding the best after-school clubs, trying to make friends, and avoiding the rumored monster on school grounds, she's having a tough time...so she might need a little help from her twenty-sided dice. But what happens if Maggie rolls the wrong number?

Bell, Cece*. *El Deafo*. At her old school, everyone in Cece's class was deaf. Here, she's different. She's sure the kids are staring at the Phonic Ear, the powerful aid that will help her hear her teacher. Then Cece makes a startling discovery: with the Phonic Ear she can hear her teacher not just in the classroom but anywhere her teacher is in the school: in the hallway, in the teacher's lounge, in the bathroom! Can Cece channel her powers into finding the thing she wants most, a true friend?

Fung, Rosena*. *Living with Viola*. Livy is already having trouble fitting in as the new girl at school--and then there's Viola: Livy's anxiety brought to life, a shadowy twin that only Livy can see or hear. Livy tries to push back against Viola's relentless judgement, but nothing seems to work until she strikes up new friendships at school. Livy hopes that Viola's days are numbered. But when tensions arise both at home and at school, Viola rears her head stronger than ever.



Grine, Chris. *Secrets of Camp Whatever*. (series) Eleven year-old Willow doesn't want to go to her dad's weird old summer camp any more than she wants her family to move to the weird old town where that camp is located. But her family--and fate itself--seem to have plans of their own. Soon Willow finds herself neck-deep in a confounding mystery involving stolen snacks, suspected vampires, and missing campers, all shrouded in the sinister fog that hides a generation of secrets at Camp ... Whatever it's called.

Meltzer, Brad. *I Am Helen Keller* (Graphic Novel BIO KELLER). When Helen Keller was very young, she got a rare disease that made her deaf and blind. It was hard for her to communicate and she often got angry. But when she was six years old, she met her teacher, Annie Sullivan, who helped her learn sign language and Braille. Armed with the ability to express herself, Helen grew up to be come a social activist, leading the fight for people with disabilities and so many other causes.

Biographies

All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything (BIO KEELAN). Diagnosed with cerebral palsy at birth, Jennifer Keelan grew up battling the limitations others set for her, continually blocked from living the life she wanted. When she was eight years old, she discovered the world of disability rights activism and participated in the Capitol Crawl to help convince Congress to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah (BIO YEBOAH). Born in Ghana, West Africa with one leg, Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah was dismissed by most people. As a boy, he hopped to school more than two miles each way, learned to play soccer, provided for his family, and eventually, became a cyclist.

*This creator identifies as disabled.