



Neurodiverse Characters & Read Alouds

Created by: Tamara Pretz

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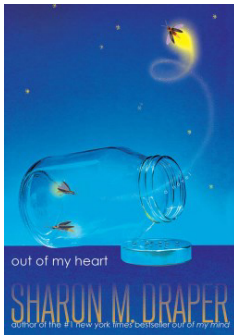
Rain reign

Ann M. Martin.

F Realistic Fiction MAR

"Struggling with Asperger's syndrome, Rose shares a bond with her beloved dog, but when the dog goes missing during a storm, Rose is forced to confront the limits of her comfort levels , even if it means leaving her routines in order to search for her pet"--OCLC.

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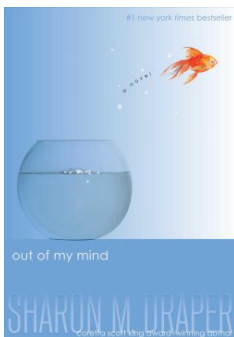
Out of my heart

Sharon M. Draper

F Realistic Fiction DRA

Because she loves horses but is scared of them, Melody wants to conquer her fears, so she hopes a summer camp will be the place to welcome someone with cerebral palsy who wants to learn to ride

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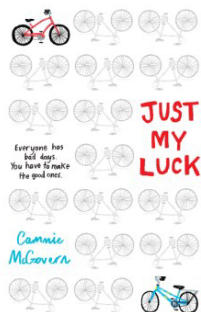
Out of my mind

Sharon M. Draper.

F Realistic 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.

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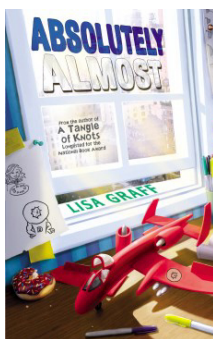
Just my luck

Cammie McGovern.

F Realistic Fiction MCG

Since entering fourth grade, Benny Barrows worries that he will never be good at anything, that he is responsible for an accident that sent his father to the hospital, and that his attempts at winning a school contest will never be noticed.

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/2458/details/172699>



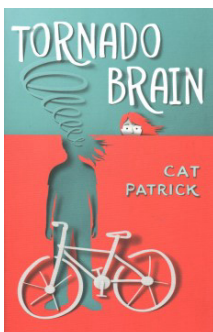
Absolutely almost

Lisa Graff.

F Realistic Fiction GRA

Ten-year-old Albie has never been the smartest, tallest, best at gym, greatest artist, or most musical in his class, as his parents keep reminding him, but new nanny Calista helps him uncover his strengths and take pride in himself.

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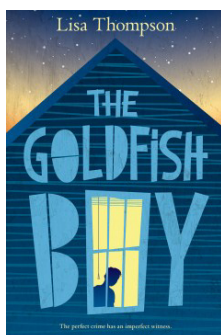
Tornado brain

Cat Patrick.

F Realistic Fiction PAT

Seventh-grader Frankie, who has various sensory disorders, is determined to find her missing best friend, Colette, before it is too late.

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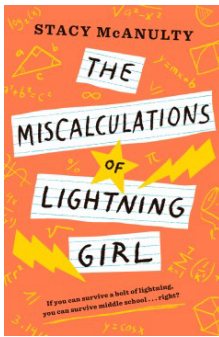
The goldfish boy

Lisa Thompson.

F Mystery THO

Emotionally crippled by his obsessive-compulsive disorder, teenager Matthew Corbin rarely leaves his room on a cul-de-sac in London, and he passes the day observing and writing down his neighbors' doings from his window--but when a toddler staying next door disappears Matt is the key to solving a mystery and possibly saving a child's life...if he can manage to expose himself, and his secret guilt to the outside world.

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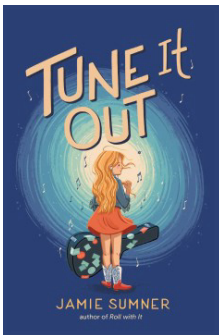
The miscalculations of Lightning Girl

Stacy McAnulty.

F Realistic Fiction MCA

A lightning strike made Lucy, twelve, a math genius but, after years of homeschooling, her grandmother enrolls her in middle school and she learns that life is more than numbers.

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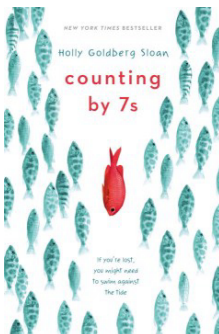
Tune it out

Jamie Sumner.

F Realistic Fiction SUM

"Twelve-year-old Lou Montgomery's life has been centered on her mother's terrifying plan to make her a singing star, but a crisis reveals Lou's sensory processing disorder and people determined to help her address it"--Provided by publisher.

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/2458/details/218756>



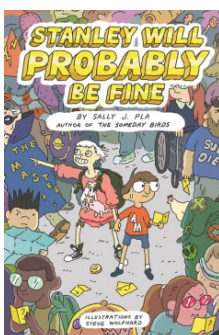
Counting by 7s

Holly Goldberg Sloan.

F Realistic Fiction SLO

Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/2458/details/140184>



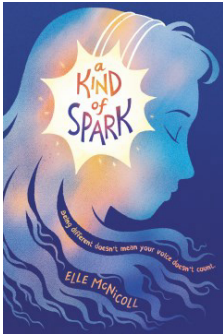
Stanley will probably be fine

by Sally J. Pla.

F Humor PLA

"Nobody knows comics trivia like Stanley knows comics trivia. It's what he takes comfort in when the world around him gets to be too much. And after he faints during a safety assembly, Stanley takes his love of comics up a level by inventing his own imaginary superhero, named John Lockdown, to help him through"--Amazon.

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/2458/details/206874>



A kind of spark

Elle McNicoll.

F Realistic Fiction MCN

When she discovers that her small Scottish town used to burn witches simply because they were different, a neurodivergent girl who sees and hears things others cannot refuses to let them be forgotten.

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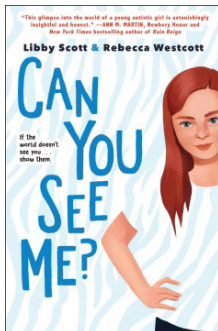


The boy with the big, big heart

Lee, Britney Winn.

E Feelings LEE

"Meet a boy with a heart so big, his feelings glow from his cheeks, spill out of his eyes, and jump up and down on his chest. What good is this giant heart?"--

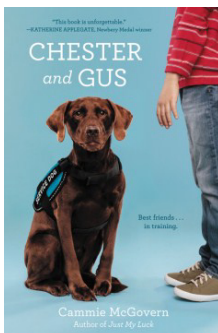


Can you see me?

Scott, Libby.

F Realistic Fiction SCO

Eleven-year-old Tally is starting sixth grade at Kingswood Academy and she really wants to fit in, which means somehow hiding her autism, hypersensitivity to touch, and true self, and trying to act "normal" like her former best friend, Layla, who is distancing herself from Tally and her fourteen-year-old sister, Nell, who is always angry with Tally for being different; but as she records her thoughts and anxieties in her coping diary, Tally begins to wonder--what is "normal" anyway?

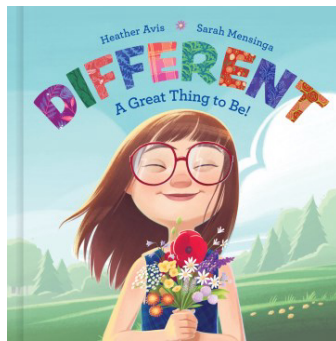


Chester and Gus

McGovern, Cammie.

F Realistic Fiction MCG

Chester, a service dog, is adopted into a family where he becomes a companion to Gus, a ten-year-old boy with nonverbal autism, who initially challenges Chester by requiring a different kind of friendship.

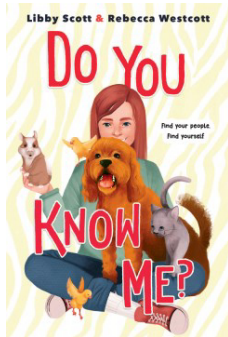


Different : A great thing to be!

Avis, Heather.

E Feelings Disability AVI

Illustrations and rhyming text introduce Macy, whose conduct and bearing point to a kinder world where differences are celebrated and embraced.

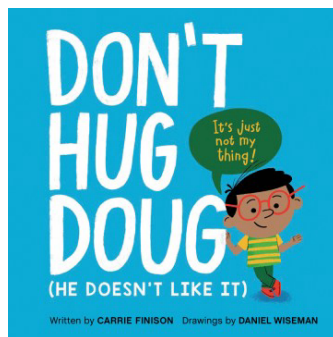


Do you know me?

Scott, Libby.

F Realistic Fiction SCO

Tally Olivia Adams is a twelve-year-old (just) autistic girl faced with the prospect of a week-long end-of-the-year class trip, which worries her, because there will be "teams" and "activities" and "competition" all of which terrifies her, especially when she finds out she is not bunking with her friend Aleksandra; the other girls on her team are often nasty, especially Skye--and Tally needs all the life-skills she has learned to cope with and expose the bully, and maybe make some friends along the way.

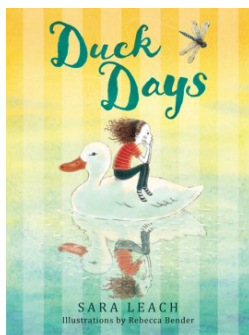


Don't hug Doug : (he doesn't like it)

Finison, Carrie.

E Feelings FIN

"Doug prefers not to be hugged, but there are a variety of other ways his loved ones can show him affection"--Provided by publisher.

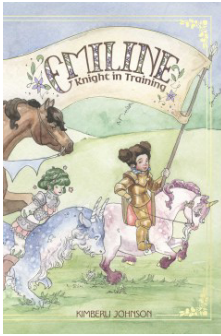


Duck days

Leach, Sara.

F Realistic Fiction LEA

"Third-grader Lauren, who has Autism Spectrum Disorder, is practising the skill of 'going with the flow,' but finds that difficult when she learns that her best friend Irma has made another friend, Jonas. Meanwhile, Lauren is dreading a looming mountain bike day at school. Her classmate Ravi teases anyone with training wheels like hers. Lauren feels better about Jonas when he tells her how important she is to Irma, and he helps her face the mountain bike day by imagining unkind words flowing off her the way water flows off a duck."--

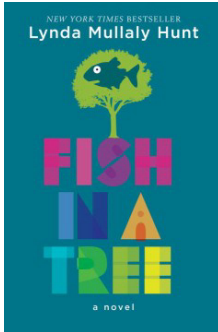


Emiline, knight in training : A graphic novel

Johnson, Kimberli.

741.5 Pink JOH

"Emiline is learning how to be a knight. There are many skills that knights need: sword fighting, unicorn riding, and PB&J eating! While Emiline is very good at these, she has a hard time reading. But when fixing a dangerous situation means Emiline must read some magic words, she discovers that with practice, curiosity, and help from her friends, she can improve at reading and save the day!"--Back cover.

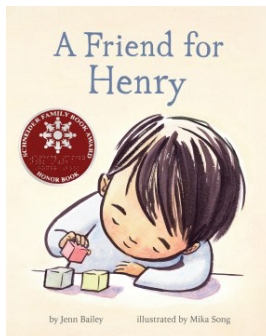


Fish in a tree

Hunt, Lynda Mullaly.

F Realistic Fiction HUN

"Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is as dumb as they think she is because she still doesn't know how to read"--Provided by publisher.



A friend for Henry

Bailey, Jenn.

E Feelings Disability BAI

"Henry would like to find a friend at school, but for a boy on the autism spectrum, making friends can be difficult, as his efforts are sometimes misinterpreted, or things just go wrong--but Henry keeps trying, and in the end he finds a friend he can play with"--Provided by publisher.

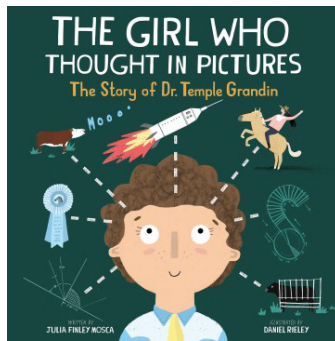


Get a grip, Vivvy Cohen!

Kapit, Sarah.

F Realistic Fiction KAP

Eleven-year-old knuckleball pitcher Vivvy Cohen, who has autism, becomes pen pals with her favorite Major League baseball player after writing a letter to him as an assignment for her social skills class.

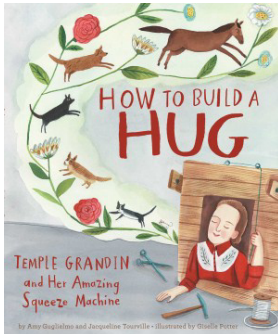


The girl who thought in pictures : The story of Dr. Temple Grandin

Mosca, Julia Finley,

B GRA

Describes the life and accomplishments of the animal scientist and designer of cruelty-free livestock facilities, from her early life and autism diagnosis through her journey to become a livestock expert.--

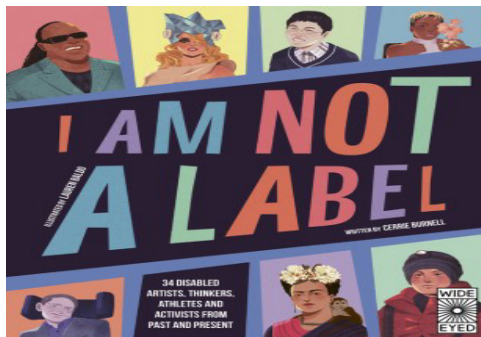


How to build a hug : Temple Grandin and her amazing squeeze machine

Guglielmo, Amy.

B GRA

"Presents the story of Grandin's 'squeeze machine,' describing her childhood love of building and design, as well as her sensitivities"--OCLC.

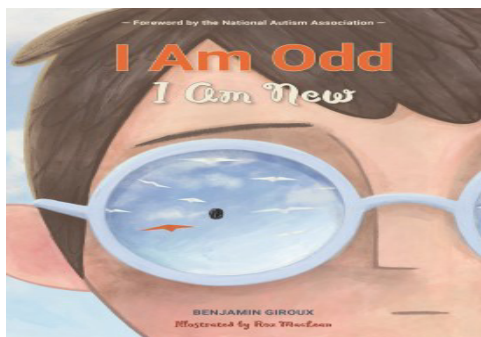


I am not a label : 34 disabled artists, thinkers, athletes and activists from past and present

Burnell, Cerrie.

BC BUR

"This book brings together 34 disabled artists, thinkers, athletes and activists from past and present. In this . . . illustrated biography anthology, meet 30 artists, thinkers, athletes and activists with disabilities, from past and present. From Frida Kahlo to Stephen Hawking, find out how these iconic figures have overcome obstacles, owned their differences and paved the way for others by making their bodies and minds work for them. These short biographies tell the stories of people who have faced unique challenges which have not stopped them from becoming trailblazers, innovators, advocates and makers"--OCLC.

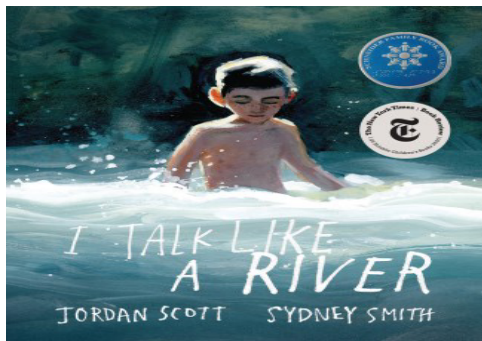


I am odd, I am new

Giroux, Benjamin.

F Poetry GIR

Ten-year-old Benjamin Giroux's iconic poem conveys what it's like to live with autism.

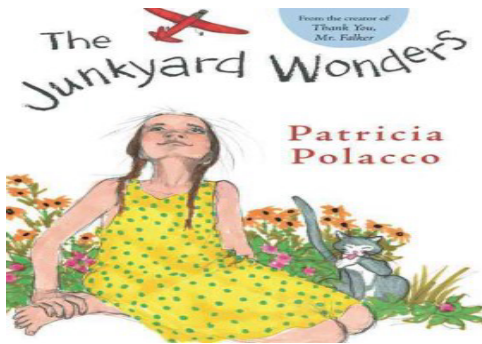


I talk like a river

Scott, Jordan.

E Feelings Disability SCO

When a child has a "bad speech day" at school, his father gives him a new perspective on his stuttering.

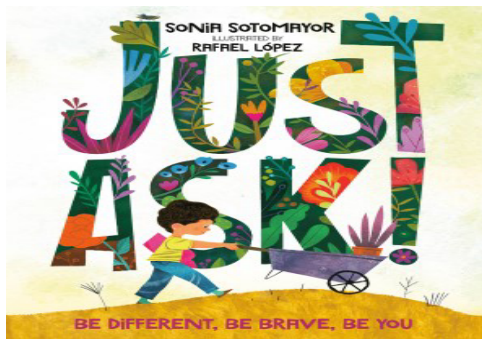


The junkyard wonders

Polacco, Patricia.

E Feelings Disability POL

Inspired by a teacher who believes each of them is a genius, a class of special-needs students invents something that could convince the whole school they are justifiably proud to be "Junkyard Wonders."

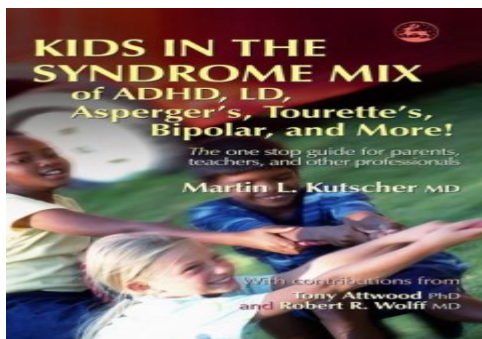


Just ask! : Be different, be brave, be you

Sotomayor, Sonia, 1954-

E Feelings Disability SOT

A story in which friends who have different abilities, work together to build a community garden.

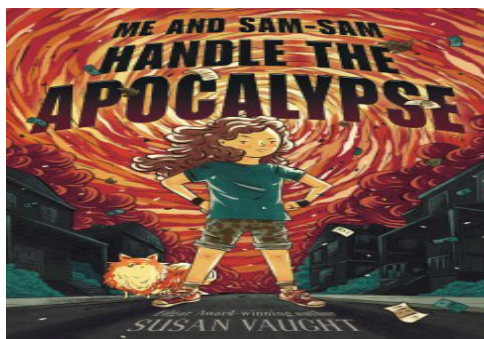


Kids in the syndrome mix of ADHD, LD, Asperger's, Tourette's, bipolar, and more! : The one stop guide for parents, teachers, and other professionals

Kutscher, Martin L.

ES Guidance & Counseling

A guide to neuro-behavioral disorders in children that provides information on each disorder's causes, symptoms, interactions with other conditions, and treatments.

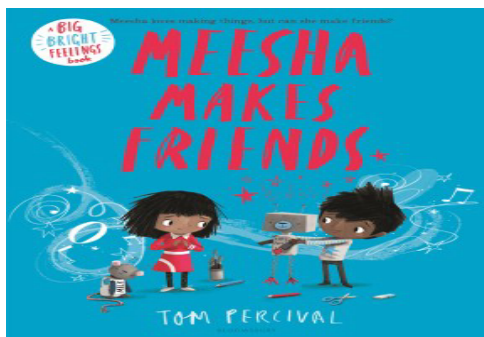


Me and Sam-Sam handle the apocalypse

Vaught, Susan.

F Mystery VAU

Alternates between the detective work of middle-schooler Jesse and her new friend, Springer, after her father is accused of stealing, and post-tornado rescue efforts of Jesse and her Pomeranian, Sam-Sam.

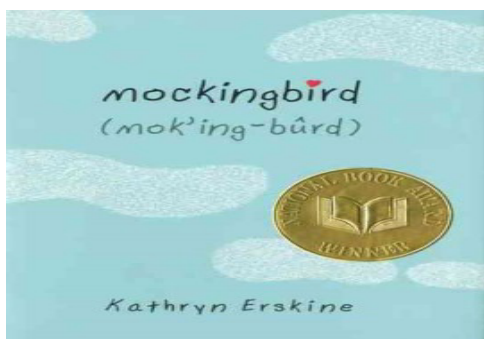


Meesha makes friends

Percival, Tom, 1977-

E Friendship PER

Meesha loves making things, but struggles to make friends until her mother takes her to a party where she meets Josh, a boy who wants to make friends, too.

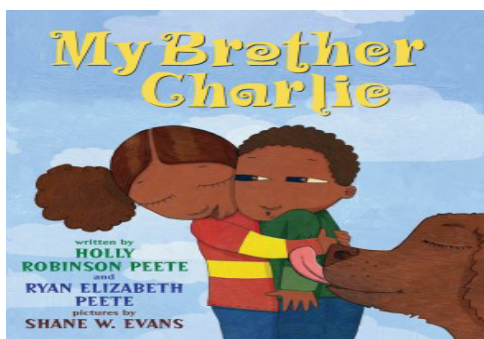


Mockingbird : (Mok'ing-bûrd)

Erskine, Kathryn.

F Realistic Fiction ERS

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.

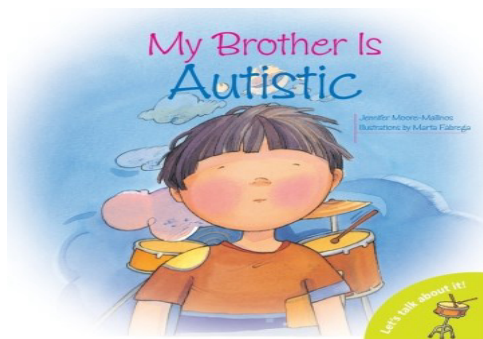


My brother Charlie

Peete, Holly Robinson.

E Feelings Disability 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.

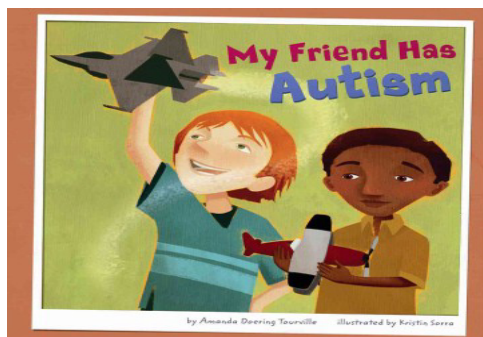


My brother is autistic

Moore-Mallinos, Jennifer.

150 MOO

Describes feelings children may experience when their siblings suffer from autism and discusses how they can help their autistic brother or sister.

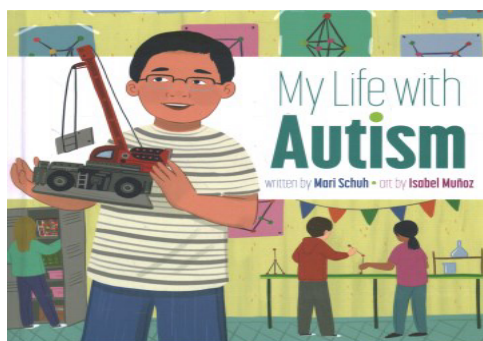


My friend has autism

Tourville, Amanda Doering, 1980-

150 TOU

A young boy describes his friendship with Zack, who is autistic, discussing the challenges Zack faces and how he acts.

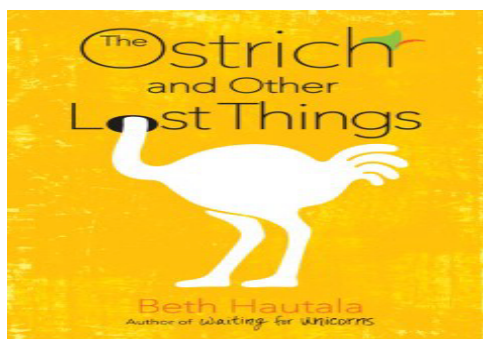


My life with autism

Schuh, Mari C., 1975-

150 SCH

"Meet Zen! He loves to draw and play video games. He also has autism. Zen is real and so are his experiences. Learn about his life in this illustrated narrative nonfiction picture book for elementary students"--Provided by publisher.

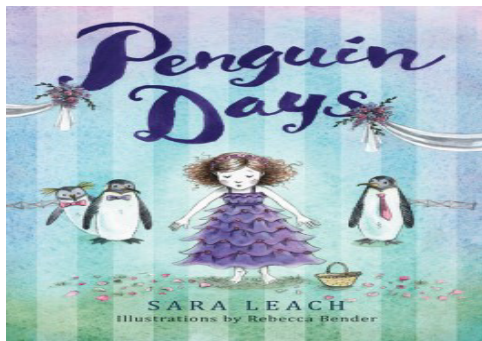


The ostrich and other lost things

Hautala, Beth.

F Realistic Fiction HAU

In this beautifully written novel, the bonds and challenges of caring for a sibling with autism are bravely explored, along with the pain and power that comes from self-discovery.

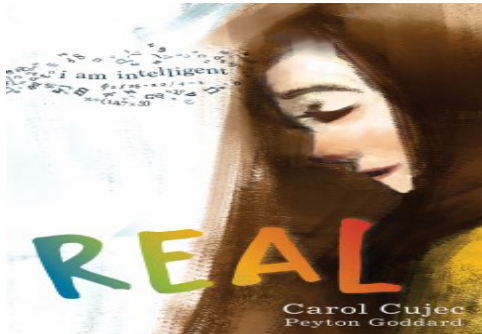


Penguin days

Leach, Sara.

F Realistic Fiction LEA

Lauren, who has Autism Spectrum Disorder, reluctantly takes on the role of flower girl in her aunt's wedding. While it's difficult to break her familiar routines and deal with unfamiliar cousins and scratchy dresses, Lauren eventually decides that having an extended family is worth the bother

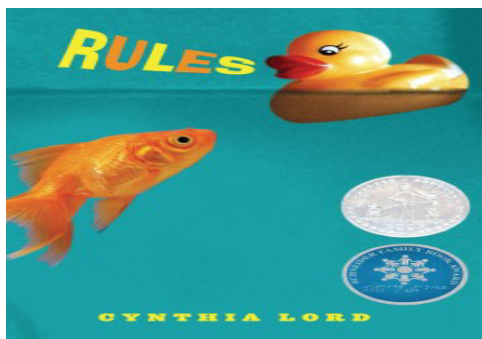


Real

Cujec, Carol.

F Realistic Fiction CUJ

Sometimes Charity cannot control her body and because she has low-functioning autism, Charity cannot communicate her thoughts to anyone else, even though she feels all of the frustrations, fears, and doubts of a typical thirteen-year-old.

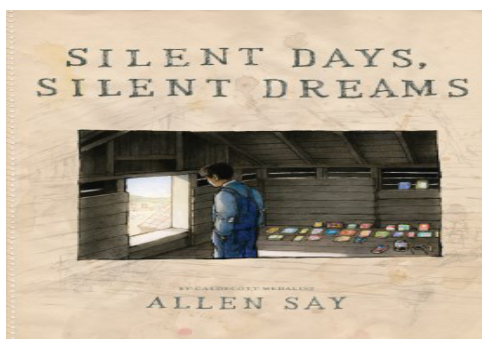


Rules

Lord, Cynthia.

F Newbery LOR

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.

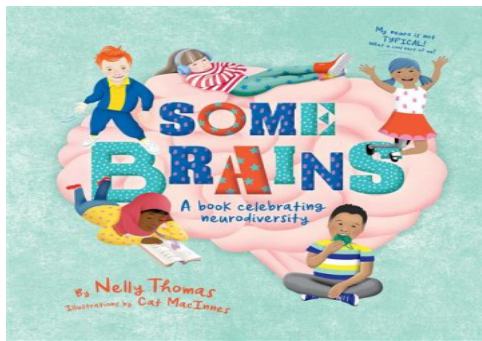


Silent days, silent dreams

Say, Allen,

B CAS

A fictional biography of James Castle, a deaf, autistic artist whose drawings hang in major museums throughout the world.



Some brains : A book celebrating neurodiversity

Thomas, Nelly.

612 THO

It starts from the premise that neurodiversity (conditions like Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia and the like) is a normal, essential part of human biodiversity - without it we don't get Picasso, Einstein or Greta Thunberg! Yes, neurodiverse kids sometimes require a bit of extra help and patience, but they should never be viewed as disordered. Some Brains encourages us all look for our strengths and to understand that brains are like fingerprints - uniquely, wonderfully ours.

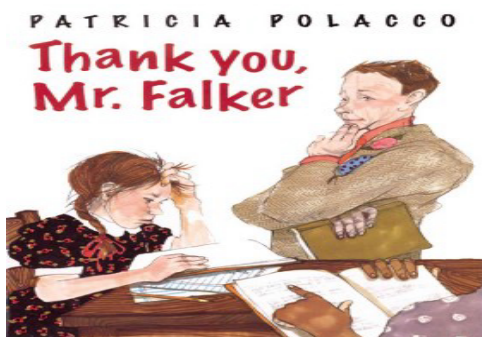


Superstar

Davis, Mandy.

F Realistic Fiction DAV

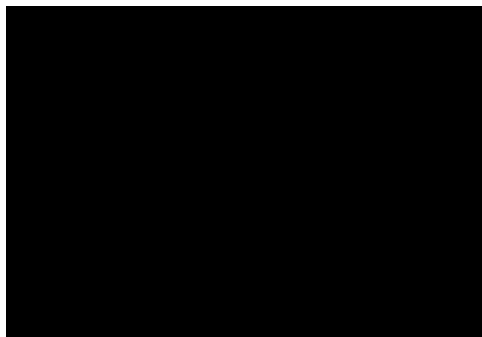
"Follows space-obsessed Lester Musselbaum as he experiences the challenges of his first days of public school: making friends, facing bullies, finding his "thing," and accidentally learning of his autism-spectrum diagnosis"--Amazon.com.



Thank you, Mr. Falker

Polacco, Patricia.

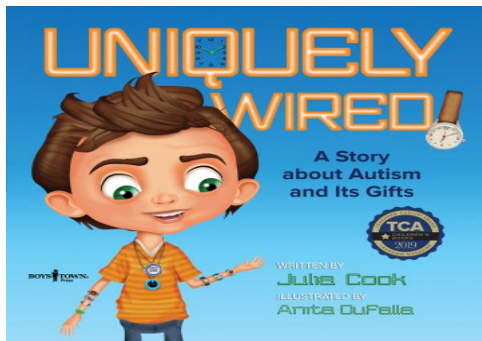
E Feelings Disability POL



The RDI book : Forging new pathways for Autism, Asperger's and PDD with relationship development intervention program

Gutstein, Steven E.

ES Guidance & Counseling

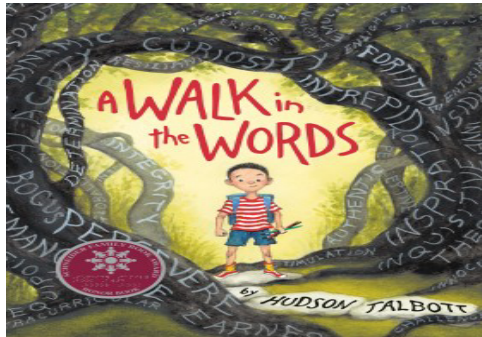


Uniquely wired : A book about autism and its gifts

Cook, Julia.

152.4 COO

Zak has autism, so he sometimes responds to the world around him in unconventional ways. As he describes his point of view, young readers gain a better understanding of his behaviors and learn valuable lessons about patience, tolerance, and understanding"--Provided by publisher.

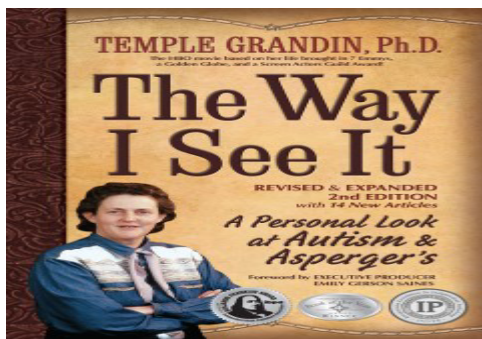


A walk in the words

Talbott, Hudson.

E School TAL

"Through a story from his own childhood, Hudson Talbott shares the challenges--and ultimately the rewards--of being a non-mainstream kind of learner"--Provided by publisher.

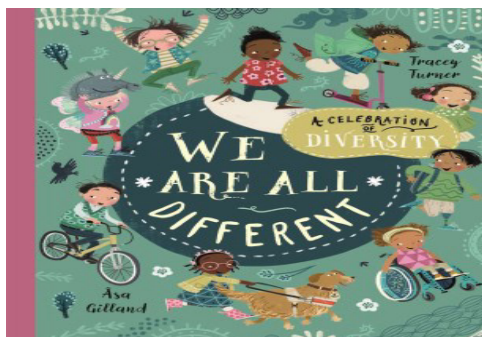


The way I see it : A personal look at autism & Asperger's

Grandin, Temple.

ES Guidance & Counseling

Collects articles written by Dr. Temple Grandin and published in "Autism Aspergers Digest" that provide advice for parents, teachers, and caregivers of young people on the autism spectrum.

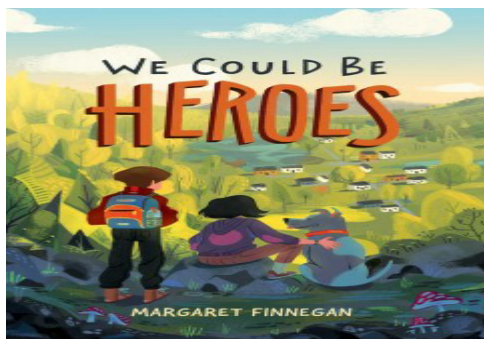


We are all different : A celebration of diversity

text by Tracey Turner ; illustrations by Asa Gilland

305 TUR

Meet the children from one school, and their teachers, parents, and guardians. They have different kinds of families, likes and dislikes, cultures, ethnicities, abilities and disabilities... and A LOT in common!



We could be heroes

Finnegan, Margaret Mary.

F Realistic Fiction FIN

Fourth-graders Maisie and Hank, who has autism, become friends as they devise schemes to save a neighbor's dog, Booler, from being tied to a tree because of his epilepsy.

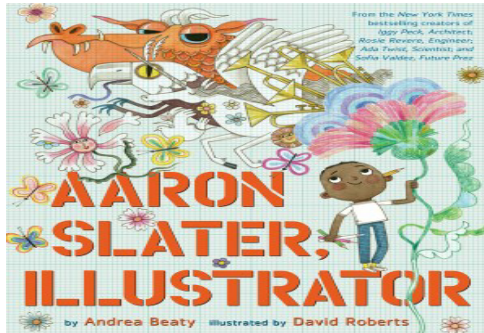


We move together

Fritsch, Kelly,

E Feelings Disability FRI

"A bold and colorful exploration of all the ways that people navigate through the spaces around them and a celebration of the relationships we build along the way. We Move Together follows a mixed-ability group of kids as they creatively negotiate everyday barriers and find joy and connection in disability culture and community. The authors disabled, parents, and activists-have struggled to find books to read to their own kids that positively feature disabled characters in an engaging and non-didactic manner. Not surprising given that, in a recent study of 258 main characters in children's picture books, only one was visibly disabled. That's why they created this perfect tool for families, schools, and libraries to facilitate conversations about disability, accessibility, social justice, and community building. This fun and inspiring book includes a kid-friendly glossary (for ages 3-10)"--

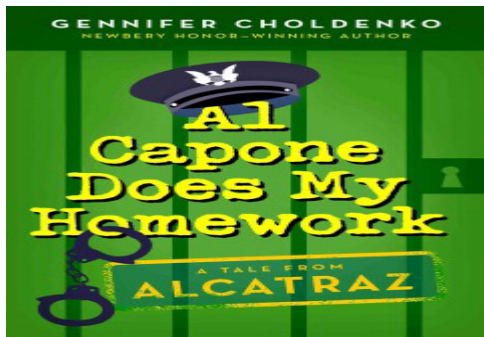


Aaron Slater, illustrator

Beaty, Andrea.

E Art BEA

Aaron Slater loves listening to stories and dreams of one day writing them himself. But when it comes to reading, the letters just look like squiggles to him, and it soon becomes clear he struggles more than his peers. When his teacher asks each child in the class to write a story, Aaron can't get a single word down. He is sure his dream of being a storyteller is out of reach . . . until inspiration strikes, and Aaron finds a way to spin a tale in a way that is uniquely his.

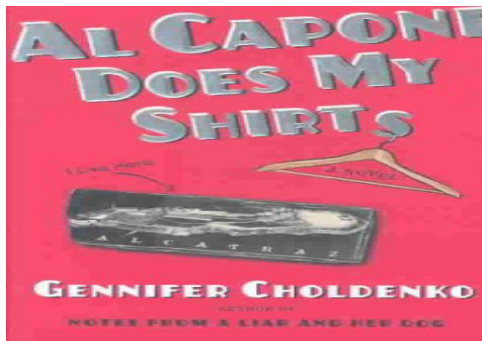


Al Capone does my homework

Choldenko, Gennifer.

F Historical Fiction CHO

"Moose Flanagan, who lives on Alcatraz along with his family and the families of the other prison guards, faces new challenges when his father is promoted to Associate Warden"--

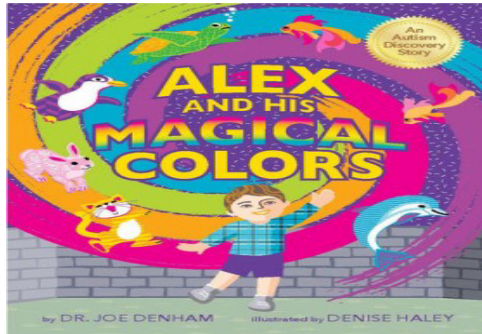


Al Capone does my shirts

Choldenko, Gennifer.

F Newbery CHO

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

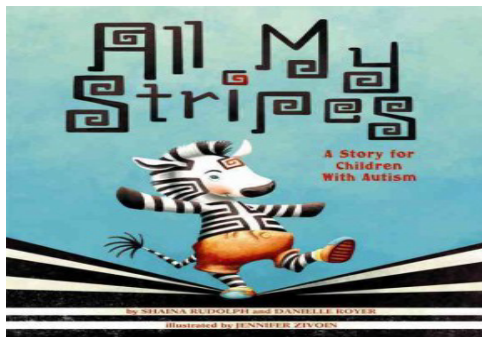


Alex and his magical colors

Denham, Joe.

E Feelings Disability DEN

"When he is unable to play baseball with other children because their loud noises hurt his head, a young autistic boy uses his love of painting and colors to find another way to make friends. Includes suggested activities"--OCLC.



All my stripes : A story for children with autism

Rudolph, Shaina.

E Feelings Disability RUD

Zane rushes home to tell his mother about problems he faced during his school day, and she reminds him that while others may only see his "autism stripe," he has stripes for honesty, caring, and much more.



Autism

Squire, Ann O.

150 SQU

Discusses autism in children, how it is diagnosed, what challenges it presents, treatment, and more.



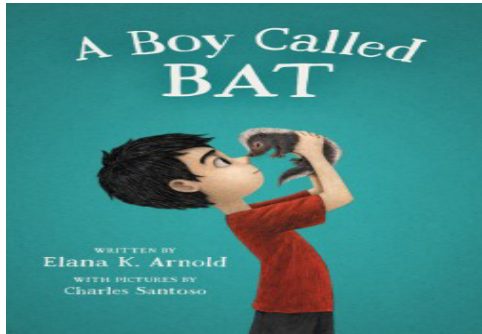
Bookmarks Are people Too!

Bookmarks are people too!

Winkler, Henry.

F Series WIN

"Hank's class is putting on a play, and Hank wants the lead part: Aqua Fly, but he freezes in his audition and can only buzz like a fly, so his teacher creates a special part for Hank.--Publisher.

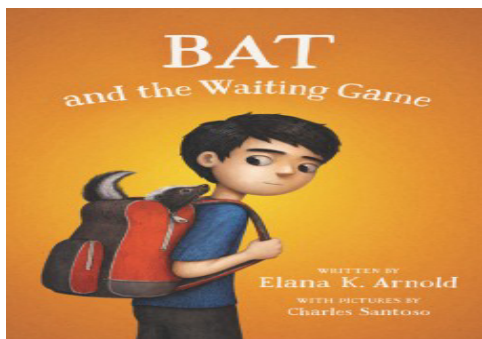


A boy called Bat

Arnold, Elana K.

F Realistic Fiction ARN

"When his veterinarian mom brings home a stray baby skunk that needs rehabilitation before it can be placed in a wild animal shelter, Bat, who has autism, resolves to prove that he is up to the challenge of caring for the skunk permanently"--OCLC.



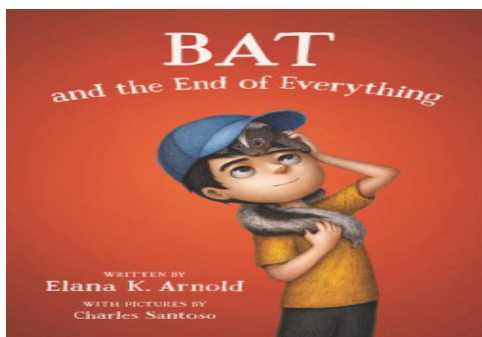
Bat and the waiting game

Elana K. Arnold ; with pictures by Charles Santoso.

F Realistic Fiction ARN

"For Bixby Alexander Tam (nicknamed Bat), life is pretty great. He's the caretaker of the best baby skunk in the world--even Janie, his older sister, is warming up to Thor. When Janie gets a part in the school play and can't watch Bat after school, it means some pretty big changes. Someone else has to take care of the skunk kit in the afternoons, Janie is having sleepovers with her new friends, and Bat wants everything to go back to normal. He just has to make it to the night of Janie's performance"--Provided by publisher.

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/2458/details/200867>



Bat and the end of everything

written by Elana K. Arnold ; with pictures by Charles Santoso.

F Realistic Fiction ARN

"Bat grows anxious as his third-grade year comes to an end and the time to release his pet skunk, Thor, out into the wild approaches"--Provided by publisher.

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/2458/details/205891>



Save me a seat

Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan.

F Realistic Fiction WEE

Ravi has just moved to the United States from India and has always been at the top of his class; Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems--but when their lives intersect in the first week of fifth grade they are brought together by a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and the need to take control of their lives.

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/rest/v2/go/2458/details/176538>