

McPhee, Norma; Favazza, Paddy C. and Lewis, Eleanore Grater
***SENSITIVITY AND AWARENESS—A GUIDE FOR
DEVELOPING UNDERSTANDING AMONG CHILDREN***

Jason & Nordic Publishing, 1998

This book gives detailed ideas about teaching children about disabilities using the turtle stories.

Welber, Beverly Zisla

***KNOWING WHAT TO SAY WHEN YOUR CHILD MEETS
SOMEONE WITH A DISABILITY: A GUIDE FOR
PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES 4-9***

Moore Center Services, Inc., 1995

Designed to help parents satisfy their child's natural curiosity when he or she meets someone with a disability. This book can help a parent through those awkward, embarrassing moments and help them teach their child about similarities and differences between people.

Lee, Rebecca Sophia

PROJECT CELEBRATION: LIVING WITH DIFFERENCES

Children's Legacy, 1998

An exhibit of photographs, photo art and writings. A delightful book celebrating differences.

Leicester, Mal

SPECIAL STORIES FOR DISABILITY AWARENESS

Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2007

An invaluable resource for parents & professionals who want to use children's stories to teach children to appreciate differences. Each chapter focuses on a child with a difference, with short stories & learning activities for the children.

Books that Assist with Diversity Awareness and Understanding Differences



NH Family Voices
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We suggest that an adult look over the children's book to determine if it is appropriate for the child(ren) before it is given to them.

Books can be requested by phone or via our website, and are sent through the mail, with return postage.

♥ Coffelt, Nancy

TOM'S FISH

Harcourt Brace & Company, 1994

Tom's favorite birthday present is Jesse, his very own goldfish. There's only one problem with Jesse, he swims upside down. Tom tries all kinds of tricks to make Jesse swim right side up. Then he finds a way to appreciate his pet's individuality.

♥ Cibula, Matt S.

THE CONTRARY KID

Zino Press Children's Books, 1995

A fun-affirming book told in rhyme. An offbeat and unusual boy does everything differently from other people, but is comfortable with his unique outlook on life. He understands that it's much more fun to break away from the pack than just to follow.

♥ Guerra, Dana Roberson

GIANNA'S WILD STRAWBERRY—A STORY ABOUT A LITTLE GIRL WITH A BIRTHMARK

Covered Bridge Press, 1998

A wonderful story of Gianna's hemangioma "strawberry" written by her mom to give other mothers and fathers support and encouragement with real life input on how to handle awkward situations with the public.

♥ Watty, Piper

THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULD

Platt & Munk for Braille Institute of America, 1986

This book is presented in both braille and text and although it's classic story is meant for blind children to read, it's a great book to show children about braille.

♥ Snyder, Heather PhD

ELVIN: THE ELEPHANT WHO FORGETS

Lash & Associates Publishing and Training, 1998

After a tree limb falls on young Elvin the elephant's head, he has difficulty remembering how to count, is bothered by noise, and feels frustrated and sad. He sees a Dr. and comes to understand his injury and to realize he is still special.

♥ Carlson, Nancy

ARNIE AND THE NEW KID

Penguin Group, 1990

Arnie would tease Phillip because he was in a wheelchair and couldn't do things like his friends. One day Arnie takes a fall and breaks his legs and learns a new appreciation for Phillip's limitations.

♥ Haines, Sandra

BECCA AND SUE MAKES TWO

Writer's Press Service, 1995

Becca and Sue become friends and Sue comes to realize that different people do things in different ways, but together they're better.

♥ Backman, Laura

LEMON THE DUCK

Lobster Press, 2008

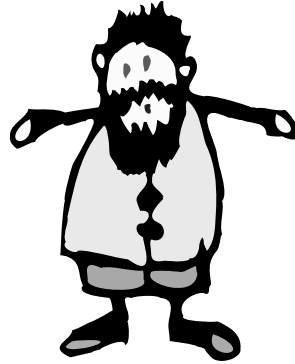
Based on a true story of a class raising ducklings. One duckling can't stand or walk like a duck. The love and creativity used by the children to help the duckling move around is an unforgettable story of love, acceptance and inclusion.

♥ Silbert, Linda P. & Alvin J., Ed.D.

WHITNEY'S NEW GLASSES

Sibert & Bress Publications, 1978, 1982

Whitney is afraid to start wearing his new glasses, but by the end of the story, he realizes that there is something about every person that makes him or her special. Suggestions for follow-up activities included.



♥ Day, Shirley

LUNA AND THE BIG BLUR

Magination Press, 1995

Luna is a girl who hates her glasses, but learns to appreciate them after spending a day without them. Children will laugh and have fun with Luna along the way of her adventures. Acknowledges children's feelings and reassures them it's ok to wear glasses.

♥ Green, Joanne

HOW DIFFERENT IS ANTHONY?

Wide Smiles, 1992

Although Anthony looks different because of a Cleft Lip and Palate, he does things like every other boy.

♥ Clemente, Gary

COSMO GETS AN EAR

Modern Signs Press, Inc., 1994

Hearing is a complex process, deafness has many degrees. "Cosmo" finds a significant improvement with the use of a hearing aid. This book is filled with humor and imagination.

♥ Caseley, Judith

HARRY AND WILLY AND CARROTHEAD

Greenwillow Books, 1991

Three boys overcome prejudicial ideas and appearances and become friends.

♥ Young, Dianne

PURPLE HAIR? I DON'T CARE!

Kane Miller Book Publishing, 1995

Who would want a baby with purple hair? Mrs. Della Ragon, that's who. A wonderful rhyming tale that has a surprise difference in the end.



♥ Kirk, David

MISS SPIDER'S TEA PARTY

Scholastic Inc., 1994

When lonely Miss Spider tries to host a tea party, the other bugs refuse to come for fear of being eaten. Until... as events unfold, they see how gracious a spider she really is. An encouraging tale written in rhyme. May also be used as a counting book.

♥ Edited by Helen Exley

WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE ME

Friendship Press, 1984/1995

Written and illustrated entirely by children with disabilities, this wonderful book gives individual accounts from the authors as to what life is, should be, and shouldn't be if you have a disability.

♥ Mayer, Gina & Mercer

A VERY SPECIAL CRITTER

Golden Book / Random House, 1994, 2004

This story introduces Alex, a new student in Little Critter's class, who uses a wheelchair. Little Critter learns that they are far more alike than they are different. This is a very simple, positive story for young readers.

♥ Lasker, Joe

NICK JOINS IN

Albert Whitman & Co., 1980

Nick begins to go to school in a regular classroom. This shows how Nick fits into his classmates' lives & activities.

♥ Denison, Katherine

I WISH I COULD FLY LIKE A BIRD!

Orange Press, 1996

Storybook with an audiotape. When Chic L. Dee, a boy bird with learning disabilities, befriends Ben, a human boy, he learns that relationships must make room for differences.

♥ Savageau, Cheryl

MUSKRAT WILL BE SWIMMING

Tilbury House Publishers, 1996

A young girl who lives in a community by a lake loves her home, but feels ashamed when a classmate calls her a "lake rat." Her grandfather tells her a legend concerning muskrat which helps her to accept who she is and where she is from.

♥ Schwier, Karin Melberg

KEITH EDWARD'S DIFFERENT DAY "DIFFERENT IS JUST DIFFERENT"

Impact Publishers, 1992

Keith goes through his day, encountering people who seem different from him. (For one thing, they can wink with one eye and he can't!) At the end of the day, he realizes that different doesn't mean bad.

♥ Riggs, Stephanie

NEVER SELL YOURSELF SHORT

Albert Whitman & Co., 2001

Josh is a typical teenager, who happens to be of short stature. He discusses some of the physical challenges he faces each day, as well as his hopes. Includes quotes from peers, and their challenges. Very positive. Lots of photos.

♥ Galloway, Ruth

CLUMSY CRAB

Tiger Tales, 2006

Nipper has huge, clumsy claws which always get in his way. Read along as Nipper learns that his claws are very useful.

♥ Gordon, Sol PhD

ALL FAMILIES ARE DIFFERENT

Prometheus Books, 2000

Beautifully illustrated book for children ages seven and older demonstrating the many different kinds of families.

♥ Cain, Barbara

I DON'T KNOW WHY... I GUESS I'M SHY

Magination Press, 2000

Sammy Samson is too shy to speak to anyone, until his puppy is missing. He discovers that his shyness doesn't have to prevent him from making friends.

♥ Senisi, Ellen B.

ALL KINDS OF FRIENDS, EVEN GREEN!

Woodbine House, 2002

When told to write about friendship, Moses, who is in a wheelchair, writes about his neighbor's iguana, who is missing toes. The fact that they are both "different" but alike inside and like one another, is highlighted as being what friendship is about.

♥ Seskin, Steve & Shamblin, Allen

DON'T LAUGH AT ME

Tricycle Press, 2002

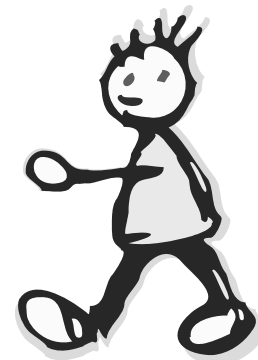
The lyrics from the song about tolerance (also titled "Don't laugh at me") are paired with colorful illustrations in this children's book on bullying. Also includes music, lyrics, and a CD with the full song, and the instrumental version of the song.

♥ ***LLEAP: LIMB LOSS EDUCATION***

& AWARENESS PROGRAM: AN OUTREACH PROGRAM

Amputee Coalition of America, 2002

Created for classmates in the 3-5th grades, this program features a series of stories & activities to increase awareness about limb loss. Contains suggested activities, stories



♥ Carlisle, Kim

THE SPECIAL RACCOON: HELPING A CHILD LEARN ABOUT HANDICAPS AND LOVE

New Horizons Press, 1994

A young beaver learns to appreciate the special qualities of individuals with special needs, as well as the uniqueness of everyone. Colorful illustrations.

♥ Enright, Rick, B.A, MSW

DISABILITIES, DRAGONS AND OTHER MAGICAL DISCOVERIES: A KID'S GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING AND LIVING WITH DISABILITIES

Thames Valley Children's Center, 1998

This book is about common disabilities (CP, Muscular Dystrophy, Spina Bifida, Seizures) and how they affect young people who have them. Like Dragons, disabilities are sometimes scary, they are also connected with mystery and magic.

♥ Shriver, Maria

WHAT'S WRONG WITH TIMMY?

Warner Books, 2001

Touching story about 8 year old Kate and her first meeting with Timmy, a young boy with a developmental disability. Kate learns that Timmy is like her in more ways than they are different, and a friendship begins.

♥ Penn, Audrey

FEATHERS AND FUR

CWLA Press, 2000

Ducks and cats alike learn a powerful lesson in friendship and how differences can be overcome by love and kindness.

♥ Simon, Norma

ALL KINDS OF FAMILIES

Albert Whitman & Company, 1976

Explores in words and pictures what a family is and how families vary in makeup and lifestyles.

♥ Brown, Beverly Swerdlow

OLIVER'S HIGH FIVE

Health Press, 1998

Oliver the octopus only has 5 arms. Some people think he can't do things because he doesn't have 8. This is a wonderful story for children about appreciating strengths.

♥ Kindersley, Barnabas & Anabel

CHILDREN JUST LIKE ME: A UNIQUE CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

Dorling Kindersley Publishing, 1995

A profile of children from more than 30 countries. Each caption provides an overview of different cultural beliefs, clothing & diet. Shows that we all share hopes & dreams.

♥ Bunnett, Rochelle

FRIENDS IN THE PARK

Checkerboard Press, 1992

Beautiful photos depict children playing together in the park. This is a nice story for children ages 3-6, to help promote friendship and inclusion.

♥ Thomas, Pat

DON'T CALL ME SPECIAL: A FIRST LOOK AT DISABILITY

Barron's Educational Series, 2002

Written for young children, this book uses simple text to address questions & concerns about disabilities. Shows all children, with help, can learn to do the things they want to do.

♥ Cooper, Helen

TOY TALES

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2000

Four toys experience wear and tear, each one worrying that they will be loved less. A wonderful lesson about being loved, even when some things change.

♥ Dwight, Laura

BE QUIET MARINA!

Star Bright Books, 2001

Marina, who has cerebral palsy, and Moira, who has Down Syndrome, are both 4. They are alike in some ways, different in others. This is the simple story of their friendship.

♥ Dwight, Laura

WE CAN DO IT!

Star Bright Books, 1997

Colorful photos and simple text show individual children, with spina bifida, cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, visual impairment, at home, at school and at play.

♥ We also have the Spanish version of this story.

♥ Judd, Naomi

LOVE CAN BUILD A BRIDGE

Harper Publishers, 1999

The lyrics to the song "Love Can Build a Bridge" provide the text for this beautifully illustrated book. Its message is that all of us, including children, can make a difference in the lives of others. Includes audio tape of the song.

♥ Szekeres, Cindy

TOBY!: TOBY'S FLYING LESSON (1ST EDITION)

Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division, 2000

Toby the mouse and Bob the bird discover that even though they can't do the same things (fly and romp), by working together they can use their abilities to do something they both enjoy.

♥ Maguire, Arlene

SPECIAL PEOPLE, SPECIAL WAYS

Future Horizons, 2000

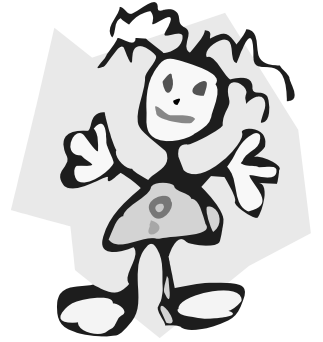
Colorful story, told in rhyme, with a positive view of persons with different abilities. Shows that we are all different on the outside, but the same inside, with gifts to share.

♥ Mitchell, Lori

DIFFERENT JUST LIKE ME

Charlesbridge Publishing, 1999

A beautiful story in which a young girl meets many different people and like the flowers in her grandmother's garden, learns to appreciate the beauty of their individual differences.



♥ Yager, Jan

THE CANTALOUPE CAT

Hannacroiz Creek Books, 1999

The cantaloupe cat likes to do things a bit differently than other cats, but still likes to play with a friend. A simple story, illustrating that everyone is special and likes having friends.

♥ Monk, Isabell

HOPE

Carolrhoda Books, 1999

This is a beautiful story of a young girl whose Grandmother teaches her the true meaning of her "mixed heritage". It is a powerful story.

♥ Senisi, Ellen B.

JUST KIDS: VISITING A CLASS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Dutton Children's Books, 1998

This book takes the reader on a visit to a special needs classroom - readers are introduced to children with varying disabilities and see what types of activities take place in the class.

♥ Fox, Mem

WHOEVER YOU ARE

Harcourt Brace & Company, 1997

A story that weaves it's way around our earth, across cultures and generations, celebrating the bonds that unite us. Beautiful illustrations.

♥ Seigel, Phil

SIMON THE DAREDEVIL CENTIPEDE

The Place in the Woods, 1998

With the support of his insect friends, Simon the Centipede tries roller skating, and although his first attempt ends in a crash, he tries again and eventually succeeds.

♥ Gainer, Cindy

I'M LIKE YOU, YOU'RE LIKE ME

Free Spirit Publishing, 1998

Beautifully illustrated book about how children are alike and different from one another, with the underlying message that they can still be friends.

♥ Weil, Kelly

ZINK THE ZEBRA—A SPECIAL TALE

Gareth Stevens Publishing, 1996

Zink the Zebra has spots instead of stripes, causing her to be treated differently by the other zebras. However in her heart Zink has all the hopes, needs, dreams and fears of any other zebra. Encourages feelings of understanding, respect and acceptance.

♥ Kissinger, Katie

ALL THE COLORS WE ARE: THE STORY OF HOW WE GET OUR SKIN COLOR

Redleaf Press, 1994

Color pictures showcase the beauty and diversity in human skin color, and offers a simple, accurate explanation for how we get our skin color, (In Spanish and English)

♥ Wojtowicz, Jen

THE BOY WHO GREW FLOWERS

Barefoot Books, 2005

Rink lives with his family at the top of Lonesome Mountain. The townspeople think his family is strange & children ignore him. Rink helps a classmate in this charming story about friendship.

♥ Landau, Elaine

STANDING TALL

Franklin Watts, 1997

This book introduces children to individuals who are different because they are very tall. Talks about what may cause persons to be very tall, as well as how they have been treated in the past.

♥ Smith, Sally S.

DIFFERENT IS NOT BAD, DIFFERENT IS THE WORLD: A BOOK ABOUT DISABILITIES

Sopris West, 1994

The message of this story is to respect and to prize our differences. Nicely and colorfully done, this shows how we each have our own "quilt" of can and can't dos. A great story to start off a conversation about differences. (grades 2-6)

♥ ***RHINOS & RASPBERRIES: TOLERANCE TALES FOR THE EARLY GRADES***

Teaching Tolerance, Southern Poverty Law Center, 2006

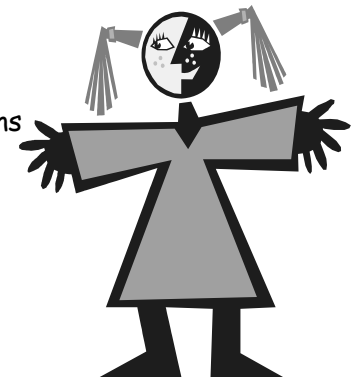
Wonderful short tales from a variety of countries address cooperation, speaking kindly, learning from mistakes, peace-making, helping others, being yourself, name-calling. Includes a teacher's guide, two sets of student books, lesson plans.

♥ O'Neill, Peggy

LITTLE SQUAREHEAD

Illumination Arts, 2001

Rosa is teased for having a square head. She feels very different, and runs to the forest where she finds a mystical pool. Over a series of visits, she learns to see her own beauty, and also learns about courage, compassion and confidence.



♥ Maguire, Arlene

WE'RE ALL SPECIAL

Portunus Publishing Company, 1995

A much appreciated children's book in a time when there is so much fear of the different. "We're All Special" upholds diversity and lets children know that being different is special.

♥ Westridge Young Writers Workshop

KIDS EXPLORE THE GIFTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

John Muir Publications, 1994

Written by student authors, third to six-graders, this book looks at the lives of ten young people with varying disabilities including dyslexia, blindness, hearing impaired, FAS and CP.

♥ Simon, Norman

WHY AM I DIFFERENT?

Albert Whitman and Company, 1976

Portrays everyday situations in which children see themselves as "Different" in family life, preferences and aptitudes and yet feel that being different is all right.

♥ Brown, Tricia

SOMEONE SPECIAL, JUST LIKE YOU

Henry Holt & Company, 1995

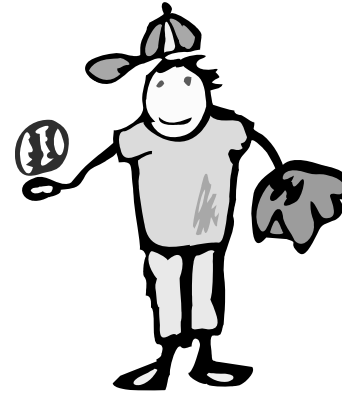
Black & white photos show young children engaged in play, at school, with friends, family, at home and at rest. Simple text accompanies the photos, showing that all children enjoy and need the same things, even if they move, talk or hear differently.

♥ Arnold, Tedd

CATALINA MAGDALENA HOOPENSTEINER WALLENDINER HOGAN LOGAN BOGAN WAS HER NAME

Scholastic Inc., 2004

The main character has a funny name, funny hair and large feet. Upbeat story to introduce that everyone is different.



♥ Scott, Sharon

NOT BETTER...NOT WORSE... JUST DIFFERENT

Human Resources Development Press, 1992

Written to help children to be kind to one another and accepting of the differences between people. Wonderful drawings and photos as well as simple straight forward discussion.

♥ Quinsey, Mary Beth

WHY DOES THAT MAN HAVE SUCH A BIG NOSE?

Parenting Press, Inc., 1986

A book showing positive attitudes toward differences in people and how they look. Answers questions without embarrassing the asker, answerer, or the person being asked about. Helps children learn about differences without involving value judgments.

♥ Rosewitz, Dawn

THE FLYING FROG CIRCUS

The Place in the Woods, 1998

Five friends with various disabilities, who have always been pushed aside because they are not "perfectly perfect", leave their town of Ican't, find self-esteem at the flying frog circus in Ican and return home.

♥ Ochiai, Midori

DIFFERENT CROAKS FOR DIFFERENT FOLKS: ALL ABOUT CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL LEARNING NEEDS

Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2003

Using tadpoles & frogs to represent children & adults, the author shows how each individual is different, grows up at different speeds, has different interests, strengths, and weaknesses.