



## Children's Booklist 2025: Ability Diverse Titles

### Books for Grades 3-5



#### Bat and the Business of Ferrets

by Elana K. Arnold

Bixby Alexander Tam (nicknamed "Bat") is starting fourth grade, and he and his best friend, Israel, want to convince the teacher to have a class pet, in a story featuring an unforgettable boy on the autism spectrum.



#### Drawing Deena

by Hena Khan

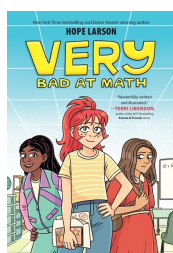
When young Pakistani -American artist Deena promotes her mom's business, which takes off and makes her anxiety unmanageable, she must learn the importance of asking for help and that, with the right support, she can create something truly beautiful.



#### Good Different

by Meg Eden Kuyatt

Selah follows her rules for being normal, until she explodes and hits a fellow student and is threatened with expulsion while seeing friends pull away, in a story about a neurodivergent girl who comes to understand and celebrate her difference.



#### Very Bad at Math

by Hope Larson

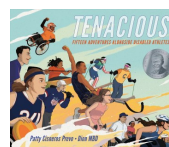
Student body president Verity Nelson can do it all, except math, until a teacher helps her discover she has a learning disability that causes her to mix up the numbers and this knowledge gives her a new perspective.



#### Deer Run Home

by Ann Clare LeZotte

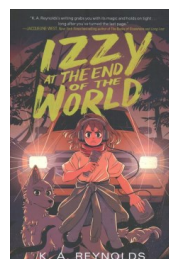
Moving into her father's trailer after an incident at her mom's house, Effie, who is deaf, gets tired of him stomping, pointing and making thoughtless jokes to communicate with her and wonders if telling the terrible secret she carries is the only way out.



#### Tenacious : Fifteen Adventures Alongside Disabled Athletes

by Patty Cisneros Prevo

An introduction to fifteen fascinating disabled athletes and their many achievements, daily challenges, and joys. Includes an Author's Note, glossary, and history of the Paralympics.



#### Izzy at the End of the World

by K. A. Reynolds

An autistic girl faced with disaster, Izzy Wilder and her dog Akka set out to discover the truth behind humanity's disappearance, facing life's greatest mysteries as they uncover the true endurance of the human spirit.



#### Shiny Misfits

by Maysoon Zayid

When her classmate and crush steals her spotlight after she wins the school talent show, Bay Ann, reduced to her disability and her talent ignored, vows to do everything in her power to beat him at his own attention-seeking game, which backfires spectacularly.

# Ability Diverse Titles

## Picture and Early Reader Books



### **I Am a Masterpiece!: An Empowering Story About Inclusivity and Growing Up With Down Syndrome**

by Mia Armstrong

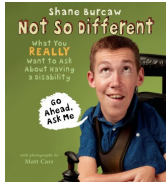
The tween actress presents this sparkling picture book in which she shows how Down syndrome makes her a masterpiece—as we all are—and helps others understand those friends, classmates and family members who are neurodivergent.



### **Flap Your Hands : A Celebration of Stimming**

by Steve Asbell

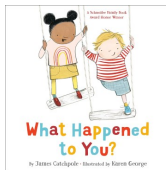
Four neurodivergent kids, who face stressful moments throughout their day, use body movements, called stims, to self-regulate their emotions.



### **Not So Different: What You REALLY Want to Ask About Having a Disability**

by Shane Burcaw

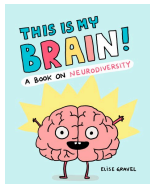
The disabilities advocate presents a highly visual book that answers the most common questions about his wheelchair and spinal muscular atrophy, describing how he works through his physical challenges so that he can fully enjoy the activities he loves.



### **What Happened to You?**

by James Catchpole

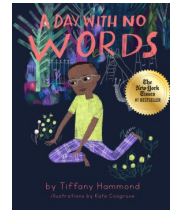
Joe, a young boy trying to play pirates at the playground, keeps getting interrupted with questions about what happened to his leg, and gets more and more fed up until the kids finally understand they don't need to know what happened.



### **This is My Brain! : A Book on Neurodiversity**

by Elise Gravel

In this seriously funny book, acclaimed creator Elise Gravel uses her trademark humor and punchy art to celebrate the many wonderful ways humans think and to show readers that understanding how different brains feel and learn can help us connect with others...and keep our own brains happy!



### **A Day with No Words**

by Tiffany Hammond

Young children will learn what life can look like for an autistic child who uses nonverbal communication by following a mother and child on a day where they use a tablet to communicate with others.



### **Mighty Mara**

by Carina Ho

Despite her bland town's growing discouragement and heckling, vibrant and upbeat Mara, an aspiring dancer who won't let her disability stop her—or anyone else for that matter—shines during her school talent show.



### **More Than Words : So Many Ways to Say What We Mean**

by Roz MacLean

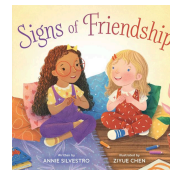
Quietly observing the many different ways his classmates communicate, Nathan learns that understanding and being mindful of one another are the greatest bridges to friendship and belonging.



### **Butterfly on the Wind**

by Adam Pottle

About to give up during the talent show, Aurora spots a butterfly and, using her hands to sign the ASL word for “butterfly,” sends a magical butterfly of her own into the world, inspiring deaf people across the globe to add their own.



### **Signs of Friendship**

by Annie Silvestro

Sally and Sonia met when they were young. When Sonia struggled to hear, they learned sign language together, but when Dev moves in with his puppy, they spend time together and Sally feels forgotten and must learn to share her feelings.



### **My Brain is Magic: a Sensory-Seeking Celebration**

by Prasha Soofel

This fun, action-packed exploration of neurodiversity and sensory processing shows children the many things their brains can be!



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