The Prince Who Was Just Himself  By Silke Schnee (Grades Pre-K–3)
The royal couple is looking forward to their third child. “He looks a little different,” says the king at Prince Noah’s arrival. However, when the youngest prince disarms the cruel knight Scarface, the nation’s most dreaded enemy, with an act of compassion, everyone finally realizes how good it is that each person is unique. This book instills appreciation for children with Down Syndrome and other developmental challenges, making it a valuable aid for teaching tolerance in the classroom.

The Girl Who Thought in Pictures: The Story of Dr. Temple Grandin  By Julia Finley Mosca (Grades 1–3) When young Temple was diagnosed with autism, no one expected her to talk, let alone become one of the most powerful voices in modern science. Yet, the determined visual thinker did just that. Her unique mind allowed her to connect with animals in a special way, helping her invent groundbreaking improvements for farms around the globe! This is the first book in an educational series about the inspirational lives of amazing scientists.

Stephen Hawking (Little People, Big Dreams, 27)  By Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara (Grades Pre-K–2)
When Stephen Hawking was a little boy, he used to stare up at the stars and wonder about the universe. Although he was never top of the class, his curiosity took him to the best universities in England. While in graduate school, at age 21, he was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig’s disease. It also led him to make one of the biggest scientific discoveries of the 20th century: Hawking radiation.

Keeping Up With Roo  By Sharlee Glenn (Grades 1–3)
On the farm where Roo lives with Grandma and Grandpa, they climb trees and play school, with Gracie always the student. Eventually, Gracie becomes the teacher, having advanced beyond Roo’s limited capabilities. Having always been best friends with her Aunt Roo, Gracie, who has an intellectual disability. As Gracie gets older, she finds new friends, and discovers the differences between the two worlds in which they live. When a school friend visits, Gracie is embarrassed to introduce her to her aunt, but as she shows the girl around, she realizes all Roo has done for her.

I’m NOT Just a Scribble  By Dianne Alber (Grades K–3)
A story about kindness and inclusion. Scribble, the book’s main character, never thought he was different until he met his first drawing. After being left out because he didn’t look like everyone else. Scribble teaches the drawings how to accept each other for who they are, which enables them to create amazing art. This book not only has illustrations that any child can personally recognize but it also addresses inclusion without boundaries so that anyone can relate to it.

Wilma Rudolph (Little People Big Dreams, 27)  By Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara (Grades Pre-K–2)
Wilma was born into a family with 22 brothers and sisters, in the segregated South. She contracted Polio in her early years and her doctors said she would never walk again. But Wilma persisted with treatment, and she recovered her strength by the age of 12. Wilma was in college when she went to the 1960 Olympics. She not only won gold in sprint events, but also broke world records with her sprinting skill. She had beaten Polio to become an Olympic champion and is an inspiration to many women in sports around the world.
Collette in Kindergarten
By Collette Divitto (Grades 1–5)
When Collette, a young girl with Down syndrome, begins her first year of school, her bubbly personality helps her make friends right away. Soon, Collette notices these new friends are not inviting her to playdates—but it’s not because they don’t want to invite her. Collette comes up with a great idea to show her classmates’ parents a new way of thinking. Based on real-life experiences this book shows us how important it is to practice acceptance throughout our lives, just as children do so freely every day.

The Autism Acceptance Book: Being a Friend to Someone with Autism
By Ellen Sobin (Grades 1–5) An interactive and character-building book that introduces children to the challenges faced by people with autism while also supporting their personal journey toward appreciating and respecting people’s differences. The book offers information, conversation-starters, and engaging exercises that invite children to “walk in someone else’s shoes” as they learn to treat others the same ways they would like to be treated.

My Brother has Autism/Mi hermano tiene autismo
By Richard Carlson Jr. (Grades K–3)
This is a story about Richard, whose younger brother Kevin is autistic. It’s based on true life events from the author’s life and that of his brother, the illustrator.

Ben’s Adventures: A Day at the Beach
By Elizabeth Gerlach (Grades K–3)
Ben loves to imagine some big adventures. He’ll make you smile as you follow him to the beach for a fun day of sand, sun, castles, and crabs! It’s a sweet story inspired by the author’s son and has subtle themes of inclusion, friendship and joy. Ben shows us that ALL kids can play and dream.

How I Learn: A Kid’s Guide to Learning Disability
By Brenda S. Miles and Colleen Patterson (Grades 1–4) When a child struggles in school, it is difficult to find the words to help. How do you explain learning problems to a child? This book provides a simple explanation of why some children struggle. It introduces learning disability in concrete terms for younger students, emphasizing that they are capable of learning, but they do so in a different way.

Princess Panda Tea Party: A Cerebral Palsy Fairy Tale
By Jewel Kats (Grades 1–3)
Michelle, age eight, has cerebral palsy and lives at an all-girls orphanage, she is teased for using a walker for mobility. One day, she buys a toy stuffed panda at the local Salvation Army store. When opportunity strikes for the orphanage girls to compete for the privilege of tea with the Queen of England, Michelle’s enchanted panda comes to life and her world will never be the same!
Rescue & Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship
By Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes
(Grades K-4) Rescue thought he'd grow up to be a Seeing Eye dog. But when he gets the news that he's better suited to being a service dog, he's worried that he's not up to the task. Then he meets Jessica, a girl whose life is turning out differently than the way she'd imagined it, too. Now Jessica needs Rescue by her side to help her accomplish everyday tasks. And it turns out that Rescue can help Jessica see after all: a way forward, together, one step at a time.

Days With Dad
By Nari Hong (Grades Pre-K-3)
Her dad can't walk. But she doesn't care about what he can't do, what she loves is what they do together! Days With Dad is a heartwarming story of love and appreciation between a young girl and her dad, who uses a wheelchair. Narrated by the daughter, the story follows an ongoing conversation between the two about the father's regret over what he is unable to do with his daughter because of his reliance on a wheelchair. But his daughter makes it clear that there's nothing to feel badly about.

Also available in Spanish! Gracias, Sr. Falker
Thank You, Mr. Falker By Patricia Polacco (Grades K-3)
The real-life story of a dyslexic girl and the teacher who would not let her fail. It's about a little girl named Trisha starting school. Trisha could paint and draw beautifully, but when she looked at words on a page, all she could see was jumble. It took a very special teacher to recognize little Trisha's dyslexia: Mr. Falker, who encouraged her to overcome her reading disability.

My Brother Charlie
By Holly Robinson Peet and Ryan Elizabeth Peete (Grades K-4)
Charlie has autism. His brain works in a special way. It's harder for him to make friends. Or show his true feelings. Or stay safe.” But as his big sister tells us, for everything that Charlie can't do well, there are plenty more things that he's good at. Holly Robinson Peete collaborates with her daughter on this book based on Holly's 10-year-old son, who has autism.

Pedro’s Whale
By Paula Kluth (Grades 1-2)
Pedro, is heartbroken when he’s told to put away his favorite toy whale on the first day of school. But then Pedro’s teacher discovers the secret to helping him do his best work: not only giving him his whale, but incorporating his special interest into the whole curriculum. Soon, Pedro’s whale is helping all the children learn, as the teacher works whales into math lessons, science experiments, and more! Pedro’s whale helps him make friends, as the other children start to share his special interest.

The Big Umbrella
By Amy June Bates and Juniper Bates (Grades K-3)
A simple book about inclusion, hospitality, and welcoming others. By the door there is an umbrella. It is big. It is so big that when it starts to rain there is room for everyone underneath. It doesn’t matter if you are tall. Or plaid. Or hairy. It doesn’t matter how many legs you have. There will always be enough room under the umbrella for everyone.

"Together We’re Better" Inclusive Education Campaign - http://www.thearcmd.org/programs/twb/
True Stories About Famous People with Disabilities and Mental Health Conditions

**A Mind Like Mine: 21 Famous People and their Mental Health** By Rachel Davis (Grades 3-7)

From Michelangelo to Deepika Padukone, Ada Lovelace to Freddie Flintoff, a great many successful people with brilliant minds and talents have lived or are living with mental health conditions.

The biographies in this book show that you can’t always tell what is behind a person’s eyes. This book helps to remove some of the stigma around mental health, discuss different mental health conditions, what they mean and how they are treated; and ultimately to show that mental health diagnoses do not have to hold anyone back from achieving their dreams. The figures featured are from a range of diverse backgrounds and disciplines across science, literature, art, music, sports, politics, and popular culture.

**I Am Not A Label** By Cerrie Burnell (Grades 1-7)

In this stylishly illustrated biography anthology, meet 34 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 that have not stopped them from becoming trailblazers, innovators, advocates, and makers. Each person is a leading figure in their field, be it sports, science, math, art, breakdancing, or the world of pop.

**Six Dots: A Story of Young Louis Braille** By Jen Bryant (Grades K-3)

Louis Braille was just five years old when he lost his sight. He was a clever boy, determined to live like everyone else, and what he wanted more than anything was to be able to read. Even at the school for the blind in Paris, there were no books for him. So he invented his own alphabet—a whole new system for writing that could be read by touch. A system so ingenious that it is still used by the blind community today.

**The Story of Helen Keller: A Biography Book For New Readers** By Christine Platt (Grades 1-3)

Helen Keller became a celebrated author, educator, and activist who believed in equality for people with disabilities. Before she made history as the first deaf and blind person to graduate from college, Helen was a smart kid who loved learning. She overcame many challenges to learn how to read, write, and talk. She spoke up for other people with disabilities so they could get equal rights. See how Helen Keller went from being a young girl in Alabama to the world-famous First Lady of Courage.

Also available in Spanish! La lección de August

Wonder by R.J. Palacio (Grades 3-7)
August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can’t get past Auggie’s extraordinary face. It’s a portrait of one community’s struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.

We All Have Different Abilities by Michelle Higgins (Grades Pre-K-2)
What can you do? Tie your shoes? Play the piano? Everyone has different talents and abilities. Let’s share and celebrate our many talents! This book is a great teaching tool about how we are all more similar than different.

Restart by Gordon Korman (Grades 4-8)
Chase’s memory just went out the window. Chase doesn’t remember falling off the roof. He doesn’t remember anything. He wakes up in a hospital room and suddenly has to learn his whole life all over again . . . starting with his own name. Who is Chase? When he gets back to school, he sees that different kids have very different reactions to his return.

I Can’t Find my Whatchamacallit!!! by Julia Cook (Grades 3-5)
Cletus and Bocephus are cousins, yet they are nothing alike. Extremely creative Cletus can’t find anything in his room. Bocephus, on the other hand, is the most organized person on the planet. This book highlights the importance of being organized in a creative, applicable way. It also spotlights the unique differences and strengths that live in all of us and how we can all help each other.

Since We’re Friends by Celeste Shally (Grades K – 3)
Matt’s autism doesn’t keep him from having fun! Even when he struggles in social situations, his friend is there to help him out. By working together, a best friend’s understanding and compassion change Matt’s frustration into excitement. This book is the perfect guide to better understand people with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Nelson Beats the Odds by Ronnie Sidney II (Grades 3-6)
Nelson used to think school was all about playing around and talking with his friends. When Nelson learns that he has been placed in Special Education, he fears being teased. Because of this, he keeps his learning disability and ADHD diagnosis a secret. With the encouragement of his parents and his Special Education teacher, Nelson pushes the boundaries and discovers his potential. “Nelson Beats The Odds” is an inspiring story that celebrates friendship, resilience and empowerment.

"Together We’re Better" Inclusive Education Campaign - http://www.thearcmd.org/programs/twb/
The View from Saturday

By E.L. Konigsburg (Grades 4-6)

How had Mrs. Olinski chosen her sixth-grade Academic Bowl team? She had a number of answers. But were any of them true? Mrs. Olinski, returning to teaching after having been injured in an automobile accident, found that her Academic Bowl team became her answer to finding confidence and success. This is about a team, a class, a school, a series of contests and, four jewel-like short stories that ask questions and demonstrate surprising answers.

No One Needed to Know

By D.G. Driver (Grades 3-6)

Heidi’s older brother, Donald, is 16 and has autism. She has always loved playing with him, but now she’s 11 and her life is changing. She’s embarrassed to have her brother around and doesn’t want her friends to know about him. High school boys bully him. When the kids at her school find out about him, she gets bullied too. No one seems to understand what she’s going through. Heidi can’t change her brother, but she can change how she feels about him. And she can get people to see why her brother is special.

Chester and Gus

By Cammie McGovern (Grades 3-7)

Chester has always wanted to become a service dog. When he fails his certification test, though, it seems like that dream will never come true—until a family adopts him. They want him to be a companion for their ten-year-old son, Gus, who has autism. But Gus acts so differently than anyone Chester has ever met. Chester’s not sure how to help Gus since this isn’t exactly the job he trained for—but he’s determined to figure it out.

Rolling Along: The Story of Taylor and his Wheelchair

By Jamee Heelan (Grades 1-4)

This triumphant story offers a valuable look at both adjusting to a wheelchair and approaching physical differences with boundless energy and determination. Taylor and Tyler are twin brothers and best friends. But the twins are different in one big way: Taylor has Cerebral Palsy, while Tyler does not. When he learns to use a wheelchair, he finds that he is able to get around school more quickly than he could with his walker. He is even able to play basketball with Tyler!

Katie Can: A Story About Special Needs

By Erin Palmer (Grades K-3)

Katie loves school and her family, she’s just like you! Katie has Down Syndrome, but that’s not what makes her so special. Find out what makes Katie so unique! More than just an engaging book about different abilities, differences, and acceptance, this kids book also includes a vocabulary list, reading tips and activities, as well as comprehension questions.

My Three Best Friends and Me, Zulay

By Cari Best (Grades K – 3)

Zulay and her three best friends are all in the same first grade class and study the same things, even though Zulay is blind. When their teacher asks her students what activity they want to do on Field Day, Zulay surprises everyone when she says she wants to run a race. With the help of an aide and the support of her friends, Zulay does just that.

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