Resources List

Disability Book List (annotated)

Music Books
• General
• Songbooks
• Songs Made into Books
• Books About Singing or Playing Music
• Rhyming Books

Books about Making Instruments

Suggested Recordings List

General Resources
(including suggested software and Web sites)
General Books for Children about Disabilities and Differences

Features children with various disabilities. Great book that also has a great bibliography of other books about children and disabilities.

Features kindergartners with various disabilities.

Dwight, Laura. We Can Do It! Star Bright Books, 1998.
Features children with various disabilities.

Children from all over the world write about themselves and their disabilities. They tell us how they see themselves and how they want to be seen. All of the illustrations are created by the children.

Contains over 250 games and activities designed to help infants to eight-year-olds with all types of disabilities grow through play.

Written for children without disabilities as an introduction to disabilities.

Kylie is a koala bear who sings, and everyone laughs at her. She leaves home and discovers other animals that sing, and learns from them. When she returns home, everyone loves to hear her sing.

Three animals from the forest are different from the other animals. The story centers around the three animals learning to celebrate their individuality.
AIDS and HIV

A young girl whose father has the HIV virus learns about the disease and becomes proud of him for his efforts to stay healthy.

This book is an introduction to AIDS, with illustrations by children.

Karen is in multicultural daycare. One child, Nicholas, is often sick and absent from school and the children find out that Nicholas has AIDS. When Karen's parents hear that Nicholas is being left out by the other children, they help organize a meeting to address the fears of both caregivers and children.

Max and Maggie’s mother has been diagnosed with AIDS. This book deals with feelings about illness and death.

Willy is an eight-year-old girl with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Describing her life, she shares her hobbies, friends, family life and aspects of her medical care and how it impacts her activities.

Asthma and Allergies

Siri leads an active life that is interrupted periodically by bouts of asthma. She tells readers about her first attack and what she does to control her disorder. The book shows her with her family and in her everyday life.

This book presents a simplified and basic introduction to living with asthma.
Written in simple language and told from the perspective of Sam, the family pet and allergen, this 
story helps children and families understand allergies.

This is a story about exercise-induced asthma in children. Justin and Ashley’s team competes in 
the school’s SPORTSercise competition and try to beat Mrs. Hatfield’s team. They learn that even 
though they have asthma, they can still participate in all sporting activities.

This book captures the spirit of childhood and illustrates that children living with asthma can 
have a fantastic fun-filled summer experience while learning valuable information.

This book encourages classmates to view children with asthma as normal kids who just happen to 
have asthma.


Justin goes to the doctor to get tested for allergies. Afterwards, he and his friend Ashley go to the 
zoo. They make a game at the zoo of identifying things that can trigger allergies.

Brianna gets the lead in the Thanksgiving school play—she’ll be Hero the Hen! This is so exciting 
she almost forgets about the coughing and breathing trouble she’s been having.

Sean’s nebulizer mask and his imagination aid in his recovery following an asthma attack. 
Information on childhood asthma and how to control its symptoms is included.

This book helps children better understand their peanut allergies.

Powell, Jillian and Gareth Boden.  Zack Has Asthma (Like Me Like You).  Chelsea House Publications, 
2004.


**ADD and ADHD**


The child uses his problem of paying too close attention to fine details to find his way out of the woods in order to rescue his dad.
This is entertaining because it is told with a child's point of view.

Stephen, a boy with ADHD, has a hard time keeping still and he feels as if he can't do anything right. Still, when he spies a goose in trouble, he's able to muster the right amount of patience and know-how to help free it from the chain around its leg.

After his mother takes him to the doctor, Shelley the turtle begins to understand why he feels so jumpy and wiggly inside that he can't stay still.

This picture book for children with ADD is both simple and upbeat.

Jimmy can't ever sit still in class, and Mr. Jugardor encourages the other students to be tolerant of him. When the children wriggle and jump about after the teacher asks them to put ladybugs down their shirts, they understand what it's like to have A.D.D., just like Jimmy.

This is a picture book designed to give children with attention deficit disorder the words to explain their condition to themselves and to others.

This is the story of David's first day of school and the trouble he gets into during the day.

This book fosters a sense of self-esteem for children with attention deficits.

Meet Eddie Minetti, human whirlwind and third-grader. He thinks, moves and speaks quickly and it often gets him into trouble. This is a book with a happy ending for grade school children with AD/HD, their siblings and playmates.
Autism Spectrum Disorders


This book about a boy with autism and his family is designed to help children ages four to eight and their parents understand this developmental disorder.


This is the story of Betsy's isolation and alienation as well as her mother's distress. When the dove finally breaks through to Betsy, the illustration captures the magic of the moment.


Angel’s new classmate, Sam, has autism and Angel is naturally curious about Sam's behavior and responses. In time, Angel learns more about the sensory world as Sam experiences it and how Sam came to be fortunate to be included in her class. She sits next to Louis and wants to get him involved and she finally finds a way in a playground soccer game.


An older brother learns to understand his younger brother Sammy and his disabilities.


This look at inclusion is told from the point of view of a little girl who sits next to Louis, who repeats words he hears and has little interaction with his peers. One day, after he shows interest in playing soccer with a classmate, Miss Owlie allows both of them to go outside and play during the afternoon.


Zachary's explanation of why Mori is not living at home with his family could be helpful to other siblings of children with disabilities who have had to be placed in a residential setting.


Little Rainman is a picture book written by a mother as if her child is speaking. It describes how a child with autism feels about his environment and its sensory challenges.
**Blind and Low Vision**


Archambault, John and Ted Rand.  *Knots on a Counting Rope*. Illus. by Bill Martin Jr. Henry Holt and Co., 1997. Near a campfire under a canopy of stars, a Navaho Indian boy hears the tale of his birth from his grandfather. Named Boy-Strength-of-Blue-Horses, the child later needs that well of strength to deal with the fact that he is blind. This is a rich tale of intergenerational love and respect.

Beatty, Monica Driscoll.  *Blueberry Eyes*. Illus. by Peg Michel. Health Press, 1996. This is a story which tells of a young child’s eye treatment, from glasses to surgery.

Brimner, Larry Dane.  *The Sidewalk Patrol*. Illus. by Christine Tripp. Children’s Press, 2002. Abby and her friends take time to move some bicycles so that their neighbor who is blind can walk on the sidewalk.

Brown, Marc Tolon.  *Arthur’s Eyes*. Little Brown and Co., 1986. Arthur can’t see, but he has to get glasses. He gets teased for wearing his new glasses, but comes to the conclusion that it is better to wear them.

Carrick, Carol.  *Melanie*. Illus. by Alisher Dianov. Clarion Books, 1996. In this original fairy tale, a grandfather sets off on a dangerous journey through the Dark Forest. When he doesn’t return, Melanie goes after him, and although she can’t see, she uses her other senses to save him.


Cohen, Miriam.  *See You Tomorrow, Charles*. Bantam Books, 1997. Charles, the new boy in the first grade, is blind. He learns to get along with his classmates and even helps them get out of trouble.
This is a story about a little girl and her family and their annual visits to the beach. One year it is very foggy and the boys cannot see the ocean, but Nellie announces that she can see it and describes it as a man with a white beard and feet made of shells. Their mother tells the boys that their blind sister can see with her mind.


A crafty herd of cows borrows Farmer McPeepers’ eyeglasses so that they can have a day on the town.


This simple Braille and print book to be shared by blind and sighted readers is unique.

This is a simple Braille and print book to be shared by blind and sighted readers.

This story is about a boy and his grandfather, who is blind. It portrays a close, loving relationship between the two and explains in a very simple and positive way how the grandfather perceives the world without his visual sense.

Jenny, who is blind, learns to adapt to her new environment and schoolmates.

The story follows Mandy Sue during an autumn day on the farm as she spends time with her horse and does things many children might enjoy. Only at the story’s close, when her little brother offers her a flashlight, do we realize she’s blind.

Sam and his brother Ben seek the source of the music in their apartment building. It’s coming from the man in Apartment 3. They discover he is blind and make friends with him.

A young girl finds a way to cope with her failing vision.
A young boy learns about how his grandpa, who is blind, does things.


This book tells the story of the first blind person to hike the Appalachian Trail.

When Lucy's class gets ready to do some painting, Lucy asks to work instead on a collage for her grandfather. She rummages amid cloth scraps for the perfect items. At the end of the day her mother and grandfather come to meet her and the special reason for making a textured piece of art is revealed as we learn that her grandfather is blind.

Moore, Eva. **Buddy: The First Seeing Eye Dog.** (Level 4) (Hello Reader). Illus. by Don Bolognese.


This book explains what it is like to be blind and how blind people can use Braille, guide dogs, canes and other aids to live independent lives.

Martha's grandfather is blind, and it's his 89th birthday. Martha has saved money in an empty cigar box for her grandfather's birthday present and she has prepared a special card for him with felt letters on it, so that he'll be able to "read" it. He traces the letters, "Happy Birthday Grampie. I love you," with his fingers.

Otto’s brothers don’t want to play with him because he is blind, until the day that he saves them from a falling tree.

Oscar, a blind boy, explains to his classmates that his books are not written in secret code, but in Braille. The Braille alphabet is illustrated so that sighted children can learn to recognize the letters and decipher a note that Oscar sends to a friend.
Sarah loves it when her five girl cousins, whom she recognizes by their voices and their footsteps, come to stay. While the parents are visiting a neighbor, the lights go out, and Sarah finds that her blindness helps her to recognize sounds that frighten her cousins and to lead the other girls downstairs so their parents can be called.


Each page shows a child interacting with other youngsters.

Youngsters will easily identify with the trio of insect-heroes. Their story offers insights about teamwork, strengths and talents that compensate for disabilities. The inclusion of Braille will make it as much for sighted kids as for those who are Braille users.

Mama tells Eloise not to bother Joe when the two talk on the front steps, but Eloise loves to tell her elderly friend about her paintings. Far from being bothered, the blind man she calls Rainbow Joe loves to listen. Rainbow Joe sees colors in his head and plays them on his saxophone.

In this book, set in 1887, Hannah, a nine-year-old, is isolated and pitied by her family because she is blind. Then a new teacher comes to visit and convinces her parents to let her attend a special school.

This story is done in fairy-tale style about a Chinese princess who receives the special gift of sight from an old man.

**Cancer**

Children, just like adults, often have questions about cancer, particularly when the illness is in their own family. This book helps them understand more about what is happening.
Brian’s brother Jamey has leukemia and submits to a bone marrow test, which leads to a transplant.


This is a story about Marcus and Ben, whose mother has breast cancer and undergoes surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. Simple explanations of these procedures are given in a matter-of-fact but gentle and positive tone.

The two friendly main characters explain cancer in a calm and easy-to-understand way.

Cancer treatments make her mother's hair fall out and worse still, the treatment makes her tired and irritable. Tabitha misses their warm tickle games. When her father sees this, he uses love and humor to help provide support.

Jason writes about his two-year experience with cancer and gives information and advice to other children with cancer.

Kathy’s love of hats helps her cope with hair loss caused by chemotherapy for her cancer.

This book helps children to understand what happens when someone they love is sick.

**Cerebral Palsy**

Even though Chad has cerebral palsy, he can still attend school and do many of the same things as his classmates. Written from Chad’s perspective, this book answers many of the questions his classmates have but may be too scared or uncomfortable to ask.


Holcomb, Nan. *Andy Opens Wide.* Illus. by Dot Yoder. Turtle Books, 1990. Andy, who is five and has cerebral palsy, has difficulty opening his mouth at mealtime, until his frustration leads to a discovery.

Holcomb, Nan. *Danny and the Merry-Go-Round.* Jason and Nordic, Publishers, 1987. Danny, who has cerebral palsy, visits the park with his mother and watches other children playing on a playground. He makes friends with a young girl after his mother explains cerebral palsy to her and points out that it is not contagious.

Lears, Laurie. *Nathan's Wish: A Story About Cerebral Palsy.* Illus. by Stacey Schuett. Albert Whitman & Co., 2005. Nathan lives next door to Miss Sandy, a raptor rehabilitator who takes care of injured birds of prey, like owls and hawks. Nathan wishes he could help Miss Sandy with some of her chores, but he uses a wheelchair because of cerebral palsy. Then Fire, an owl with a broken wing, comes to Miss Sandy. Fire is desperate to fly but on the day Fire tries to fly, she cannot do it. Nathan searches for a way to help Fire, not realizing that what he finds will help transform his life as well.


**Communication Disorders**

Andrews, Ted. *Dream Song of the Eagle.* Illus. by Deborah Hayner. Hampton Roads Publishing Company, 2002. A girl who is mute and a boy who is clumsy are outcasts and shunned among their home village. They retreat to a secret shelter in the woods and care for animals who come to them. Then one
day an injured eagle changes everything forever in this fairytale for young readers.

Young Aria is taunted by the children in her village because she cannot speak, and so she runs away to the jungle and lives with the birds. She weaves herself a cape from their fallen feathers and warns them of danger whenever hunters approach. When the birdsellers gang up to attack Aria, her friends surround her and sweep her to safety high above the trees.

Ben, a boy who stutters, befriends a junkyard dog. He finally gets the courage to ask the negligent owner if he can buy the dog. This book also contains a list of resources on stuttering.

This book tells the story of a little girl who is selectively mute. It chronicles how she feels, how she acts and how her parents and teachers work to help her.

Anna chooses not to talk when she enters kindergarten, but then she discovers the pleasures of self-expression in the security of a therapist's office.

A six-year-old boy, Armann, stutters when he is frustrated.

Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Dina, a dinosaur who is deaf, runs away from home because her parents won’t let her learn sign language. She meets an owl, mole and chipmunk who become her friends and help her learn to sign.

Thomas Edison, who was deaf, invented many things that shape our lives today.

A young boy describes the challenges of being deaf and the encouragement he receives from a deaf teenager that he can lead an active life.

Chris explains how he uses sign language, hearing aids, lip reading and other visual clues. He compares himself to both a hearing friend and a deaf one, pointing out similarities and differences.
Jimmy, who was deaf, attends Career Day where he meets deaf adults with interesting careers, who communicate using sign language. Included are diagrams illustrating signs for some words in the text.

Frannie, a lonely little girl, discovers a new friend when a deaf girl her age moves in next door.

Mixed feelings are experienced by Laura, a young deaf girl, upon finding out that her mother will soon give birth. Her initial excitement is displaced by worries that the new child, if able to hear, would be more lovable.

A boy and his father go for a special morning walk. The boy wears hearing aids, but he and his father have many ways of communicating.

A little Cambodian girl named Lotus is deaf and does not speak. By building on the gestures she develops to communicate with her family, she eventually becomes a dancer for the king.

This is a book to help children understand what a hearing aid is and why some children need one.


The wealthy Mr. McCurry Brogan Howlweister has long been referred to as "the Grump." The streets clear on Thursday when he does his weekly shopping at the store run by the parents of Lydia, a little girl who was deaf. One by one, small gifts arrive on the Grump’s doorstep. He catches Lydia leaving the third gift, her beloved doll, and is reformed.

Christy MacKinnon is a young girl born in 1889 on a farm on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada, who became deaf after having whooping cough. She describes her life in adjusting to deafness, her relationships with family, and her problems in trying to understand and be understood by hearing individuals.


These stories are about Moses’ experiences at the public school for children who are deaf and about his activities with his school friends. The text includes American Sign Language signs.


Grace is a dog who is too small for seeing eye dog school. After saving a child, she enrolls in hearing dog school. This story follows her ups and downs at school and tells how she finally manages to graduate.


A story with photos of two sisters, who are hard of hearing, enjoying life as other children do.


The book explains what a hearing aid does for children who are hard of hearing.


A first grade class is introduced to hearing loss and sign language by the hard of hearing aunt of one of the students.


A mischievous parrot wreaks havoc when he plays a trick on his hard of hearing owner in this jaunty tale of friendship and forgiveness.


After becoming separated from his human family, a mother and little boy who are both deaf, a puppy is trained as a hearing ear dog and is eventually reunited with his owners.


When Kim, a girl who is hard of hearing, begins going to a regular school after having been in a special one, she finds that she isn’t as different as she had feared, because everyone she meets has individual differences too.
Books Which Teach or Use Sign Language


A beginner’s book to sign language.

Ancona, George, Remy Charlip and Mary Beth Miller.  *Handtalk Birthday: A Number and Story Book in Sign Language*.

A birthday story with written English and photos of people doing sign language.


This book contains more than 300 essential signs, their English equivalents and a picture "translation."


For younger children, these two books include line drawings of signs that go with the illustrations.


Nursery rhymes are accompanied by easy-to-follow instructions for making simple signs in Signed Exact English.


This is a basic beginning sign book for young children.


Deaf and Blind

Helen Keller's life is described in this pictorial biography. It tells of her frustration and untamed behavior and the radical changes effected by Anne Sullivan Macy.

Helen Keller cannot see or hear. But that does not stop her from playing tricks on people, including her new teacher, Annie Sullivan. Still, Annie will not give up on Helen. Can Helen ever learn to trust her teacher?

Here is an easy-to-read version of the story of Helen Keller, the deaf and blind girl who learned to read, write and speak with the help of her teacher, Anne Sullivan.

This is the story and photos of David who is blind and hard of hearing.

Diabetes

This book explains what diabetes is to young children.

Seven-year-old Caitlin writes about being newly diagnosed with diabetes.

When Brian finds out he has diabetes his mother decides to get a stuffed bear for Brian. She sews special patches on the same areas where Brian gets his insulin shots and puts hearts on the paws where Brian gets his fingers pricked for glucose testing. Brian now has his own "diabetic" bear with which to share his fears and experiences.

This is a collection of twenty-five stories portraying children with diabetes doing usual things such as expressing their emotions, coping with difficulties and having fun.

In this book there is basic information on diabetes written in language appropriate for young children.

A young girl describes her life with diabetes.


This book is an entertaining and informational book about Type I or Juvenile Diabetes. The book is intended to help children and their parents understand what to expect from diabetes and, more importantly, to understand they can live a normal, long life by taking proper care of themselves.

Diabetes is explained in language that is both simple and reassuring in this story as it follows seven-year-old Abigail Ruby in her quest to understand her mom’s diabetes.


**Down Syndrome**

The siblings of a boy with Down syndrome write about their life with their brother.

Dustin, a young boy with Down syndrome, learns that his parents are expecting a baby.
Dustin, a second-grader with Down syndrome, goes through his normal school routine while anxiously awaiting the visit of a ventriloquist at the end of the school day.

A girl who has cerebral palsy befriends a girl who has Down syndrome.

Eddie Lee, a young boy with Down syndrome, follows the neighborhood children into the woods to find frog eggs.  At first they don’t accept him, but then he makes the best find of all.


These alphabet and number books use photographs of children with Down syndrome. At times the models pose with siblings.  Children with Down syndrome will enjoy seeing themselves reflected in these books.

This is a story of how Cindy, who has Down syndrome, found her puppy Smudge.

An older brother learns how to care for his little sister who has Down syndrome.

This is a board book with color photos of children with Down syndrome and variations on "I can.... Can you?" The youngsters are all actively engaged: feeding themselves, playing with blocks, swimming, happy and enjoying their newfound abilities.


Misty, who has Down syndrome, has lost her favorite stuffed animal and reviews her daily activities with her father to find it.  No special mention of Down syndrome is made.

Russ is a young boy with Down syndrome whose everyday life experiences—not his disability—are the subject of a number of books in this series. Russ going "on-duty" with his uncle, a fireman, finding that apple trees are great for pies and other everyday experiences are written by his mother and illustrated with photographs of his activities.

When Kate meets Timmy, who seems somehow different, she talks with her mom. Kate begins to understand that Timmy is just like her in many ways. Timmy has special needs; he takes longer to learn than Kate and can't walk or run as well. But he also loves his family, he wants friends, he goes to school and he dreams about what he wants to be when he grows up. Kate and Timmy become friends.

An older sister realizes that she can still do all the things she'd planned to do with her new baby brother, even though he has Down syndrome.

This book includes three short stories about a boy with Down syndrome. One story features his drawing skills.

This is a little book that teaches about difference and acceptance. Isabelle and Charlie are the same age, but like most friends, they are different: Charlie is tall and knows "a lot of words," and Isabelle is short and sometimes her words are, "hard to understand." But still they are good friends.

**Epilepsy**


This children's book dispels the myths and fears surrounding epilepsy in a positive and entertaining style and explains seizures in an understandable fashion.


Lee is a young rabbit who experiences occasional blackouts and trances. After Dr. Bob, the wise owl, administers a series of neurological tests, Lee is told she has epilepsy.
Learning Disabilities and Differences

   This is a story that will help children better understand their world by understanding Jason’s. His story
   reveals that children with learning disabilities are more similar to other children than they are
different.

   Ten-year-old Jimmy is having problems at school and believes he is stupid. After a parent-teacher
   conference, he is tested and found to have a learning disability.

   Leo is a tiger cub who just can’t keep up with what the other animals are doing. He can’t read,
   write or speak, and he is a sloppy eater. He’s a late bloomer.

   This book describes home and school experiences of a younger brother with learning
disabilities.

   Five-year-old Keith Edward, who takes a little longer to learn new things, has an interesting day as
   he meets people who are different from him in various ways.

Muscular Dystrophy

   A young boy with muscular dystrophy goes to a special camp where he is paired with an
   intelligent golden retriever who performs everyday tasks. They are leashed together while the
   boy learns to give commands and Buddy learns to obey. When they leave camp, the dog is able
   to help his human friend dress, attend school, shop and play.

   This is a fictional account of a true tale of a runaway llama that becomes the focus of a chase
   by the authorities assisted by five bright neighborhood youngsters. The chase and capture of
   the llama tightens the bond between three of the friends, one of whom has Muscular
   Dystrophy.
Mental Health Disabilities

Berry, Joy Wilt. *Let’s Talk About Feeling Sad (Let’s Talk About).* Illus. by Maggie Smith. Scholastic, 1996.
This is just one of a large number of books from the "Let’s Talk About" series by the same author and publisher. Feeling angry or jealous, disobeying, stealing and many other topics are among those subjects addressed, each in their own book.


Artwork accompanies a quiet story about a young boy trying to overcome the challenges of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) in his daily life.

Charles enjoys spending time with his gentle Uncle Melvin, even though Melvin harbors strange delusions about his own power to talk to the birds or control the rain and is not like other adults.

This is the first book for children and parents that confronts OCD. The kind Dr. Mike helps Jenny overcome her fears.


Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

A beautifully illustrated story about a boy who has a mental disability and how he learns to relate to others through his friendship with a horse.

Leo is a tiger cub who just can’t keep up with what the other animals are doing. He can’t read, write or speak, and he is a sloppy eater; he’s a late bloomer.

When the state institution closes, Uncle Joe will move to Dan’s house. Dan and his family are apprehensive about a relative with mental retardation living with them.
A girl expresses her sadness at being called a “retard” by people who do not know how loving and self-reliant she is.

An older sister, who has mental retardation, comes home from a special school. The book provides a thoughtful look at the realities of what’s difficult about this for the younger sibling and for the family.

David is a young boy who describes life with his younger brother who was born with a mental disability.

A brother deals with positive and negative feelings about his sister who has mental retardation.

**Spina Bifida**

Despite his excitement over using a new walker, three-year-old Patrick finds it isn't easy and becomes discouraged until his new friend, six-year-old Emma Lou who has spina bifida, helps him discover something important about himself. Sometimes he wonders why they can't be like other kids who walk easily, but then, as Emma Lou says, "Because you're just you, Patrick and I'm just me."

In this bilingual book we learn about Tomasito. Unable to walk because of his spina bifida, he feels unconnected in his new school. His father brings him a featherless parrot for company, but the boy doesn’t want a bird that looks so different. Eventually, Tomasito finds a place for himself on the soccer field, where he learns that one doesn't necessarily need feathers to fly and that there is more than one way to play soccer.

More than just a story about friendship, this book looks at differences - such as being in a wheelchair or missing toes - in a unique way. Through photographs and a story, children discover that living with a disability and facing its challenges can be interesting, even positive. Using a wheelchair because of spina bifida, Moses nevertheless participates in all of the classroom activities.
Physical Disabilities

Sosu is an African boy who cannot walk but whose bravery surpasses his physical limitations. Sosu is shunned, but when storm waters rage one day, Sosu drags himself to the drum shed, where he beats out a rhythm to call the men back from their work. His drumming brings help, and in gratitude for the lives saved, the villagers provide Sosu with a wheelchair.

This inspiring biography of Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates, who lost his left leg in a cottonseed mill accident in 1919 at the age of 12, chronicles the man’s amazing life from his days as the son of a sharecropper in South Carolina to his rise to fame as a tap dancer.

Dominic’s friend, Victor, may not walk but he's far from disabled. He is not only a source of support but a limit-pushing, life-expanding influence.

When a girl and her dog, Henry, greet the Canada geese as they return in the spring, she notices that one has been injured and is missing a foot. The others in the flock shun the goose, but the child decides to help it. This is a story with a message about accepting others in spite of their differences and helping those who are less able.

A six-year-old boy describes life with his mother, a teacher with physical disabilities.

Philip, a new boy in school, uses a wheelchair and is generally ignored by his classmates because they don't know how to include him in their games. But when Arnie, his main tormentor, falls down the stairs while teasing Philip, the usually able-bodied boy discovers firsthand how hard and slow it is to navigate on crutches. The two develop a friendship as they realize all the things they both enjoy and can share together.

Harry, who was born without a left arm, is sure of himself and what he can do and teaches other children to be confident in their differences.
Fanny, a kitten with only three legs, and her friend Ruby, a puppy, help the other farm animals learn that having a disability is only a state of mind.

This is a wonderful book about a child having fun with his mother in a wheelchair. He uses the rolling motion of the chair to fuel his imagination, placing himself in imaginary planes, boats, etc.

Miranda is a gifted dancer. Now that she is about to perform for the first time, Miranda hears her mother telling her instructor how proud she is of her daughter. It seems that her mother had polio as a child and wore heavy leg braces until she was a teen, and that her mother experiences joy watching her.

Sammy's father, who is in a wheelchair, is reluctant to join Sammy in going fishing, until his son's love of the herons, dragonflies and water creatures inspires his father to come out and try fishing with him.

With his leg in a cast, Doug gives up on participating in Bluffington's Winter Games Festival until he realizes, with the help of Patti and her father who uses a wheelchair, that trying is more important than winning.

Jonathan, who uses a wheelchair, faces his fear of tornadoes.

This unique book recounts the making of a prosthesis for a girl who was born with one hand. It begins with the visit to the hospital where Madison and her family learn about the different kinds of helper hands.

In this book and other in the series, a young boy who uses a wheelchair and his mother drive to different places, observing the various signs on the way including the sign which shows them where to park. Other books take them to the park and to the store.
A little girl and her imaginary dinosaur friend have fun playing with a new neighbor who has a
disability.


Nick, who uses a wheelchair, joins a regular classroom and deals with his classmates’ questions.

Little Critter discovers that the new boy in class is really not any different from other children,
even though he uses a wheelchair.

This familiar story introduces a wheelchair and an automatic bed used by baby bear, and
Goldilocks finds that the cottage has a wheelchair ramp.

In this story Clifford, Cleo and T-Bone meet a new dog named K.C. They are shocked to discover
that he only has three legs, and they aren’t sure what to say, or how to play with him. But K.C.
shows them that he’s not that different after all!

Jealous of her sister’s royal treatment as she sits in her wheelchair, Patty Jean tries out the
conveyance and discovers that life in a wheelchair is harder than it seems.

This is a story about a boy worried about sharing his grandpa with his baby sister. Grandpa uses a
wheelchair.


Powell, Jillian.  *Sam Uses A Wheelchair (Like Me Like You).*  Illus. by Gareth Boden.  Chelsea House

A true story about a class and their male preschool teacher who uses a wheelchair. It’s told from
the point of view of the children.

This is the story of a young girl who uses a wheelchair and who comes up with a way to earn
money at the school carnival.
The language of this classic book is for older children but the format makes the story accessible to pre-readers and early readers.

Children who use wheelchairs, communicate via computer screens and have less-visible disabilities go about their daily routines with other children. The well-known Mr. Rogers states simply that all people want to love and be loved and that people are alike even if they have differences. He encourages children to ask questions and to start conversations. He reminds children that sometimes people may not want help, so you should ask first.

Each double-page spread introduces one concept, with a color photograph on the left and one or two simple sentences in large print on the right. Each cover shows a child interacting with other youngsters.

Peg the hen, who has only one leg, becomes an unusual but much loved mother.

Oliver, an octopus with only five arms, proves that he's very capable.

Because Hunter Bunny cannot hop like his brothers and sisters, he needs a motorized wheelchair, and Clark the duckling needs glasses. Because of their disabilities they are teased by the other animals. But when the Easter Bunny sprains his ankle, Hunter Bunny and Clark are able to save the day.

This is a story about compassion, forming positive connections and the importance of a bright outlook.
This story follows Susan through a series of familiar activities. She swims with her father, works hard in school, plays with her friends and even rides a horse. Not until the end of the story is it revealed that Susan uses a wheelchair.

**Books About Children Dealing With Difficult Situations**

This is an interactive picture book approach to explaining depression and its treatment in terms and images that kids can readily understand. It reassures children that their parents can get better, explores the many feelings such children usually experience and gives practical ways for children to cope with this situation.

This picture book tells about a young girl living with a mother who is mentally ill. When Mommy yells, Annie calls Grandma, who assures her that it isn't her fault. (An introduction for adults talks about bipolar disorder and how to get community help.) The last picture shows loving Mommy the next day as she braids Annie's hair.

This story helps explain depression to children. It tells about the feelings of Amanda, as she experiences her mother's unpredictable episodes of depression. The mother also is clearly upset when she sometimes cannot respond to her child's needs. Her mother and father both help Amanda understand that her mother loves her and that the mother's illness is not Amanda's fault.

This story is for children who have witnessed any kind of violent or traumatic episode, including physical abuse, school or gang violence, accidents, homicide, suicide and natural disasters such as floods or fire. Sherman Smith saw a terrible thing happen. At first he tried to forget about it, but soon something inside him started to bother him and he felt frightened and angry. Then he met Ms. Maple, who helped him talk about the terrible thing that he had tried to forget. Now Sherman is feeling much better.

This is a simple, colorfully illustrated story, “The Star” is a must for young children and foster parents experiencing foster care for the first time.


Kate learns acceptance and begins to understand her Grandpa's condition. Kate wonders what can be done to address the changes Alzheimer's will bring to the family. She decides how to help her grandfather as he goes through this difficult time.


A kind and sensitive school nurse sees that a young victim of child abuse and her abusing mother get help.


This book describes a young girl whose mother has Hepatitis C. The story does a good job of explaining the illness and showing that the mother loves her child even when she is feeling ill.


This book introduces the people and procedures involved in foster care. It covers feelings, reactions and concerns of new foster children. Included is an afterward for caregivers.


Two children have been left alone for days by their mother. Miss Roy is the social worker who eventually takes them to live with their Aunt Gracie who is loving and warm. Toward the end of the book, the children visit their mother, who says, "Even when a mama loves you, she can't always take care of you." The book concludes with the hope that their mother will eventually be able to take care of them again.
**MUSIC BOOKS**

### General


Great resource for any children’s recording!


### Books about Making Instruments


### Songbooks


1986.


Seeger, Ruth Crawford. Animal Folk Songs for Children: Traditional American Songs. Illus. by


**Books from Songs for Reading and Singing**


Books about Singing or Playing Music


Books with Rhymes and Chants


This list is organized alphabetically by the name of the artist, the title of the album cited in the lessons, the production house and the year it was published. Many other recordings are available from these artists.

Jenkins, Ella. *You’ll Sing a Song and I’ll Sing a Song*. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, 1989.

**Collections**


**Classical Music for Children**

**RESOURCES**

**General**


**Multi-Arts Resource Guide and companion videos**

VSA arts of Massachusetts
China Trade Center, 2 Boylston Street, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02116
Phone: (617) 350-7713 Fax: (617) 482-4298 TTY: (617) 350-6836
e-mail: vsamass@aol.com

“The Creative Arts Therapies” (catalogue)
MMB Music, Inc.
Contemporary Arts Building, 3526 Washington Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63103-1019
Phone: (800) 543-3771 Fax: (314) 531-8384
e-mail: mmbmusic@mmbmusic.com
Website: www.mmbmusic.com

“The Davis Art Education Materials” (catalogue)
Davis Publications, Inc.
50 Portland Street, Worcester, MA 01608
Phone: (800) 533-2847 Fax: (508) 753-3834
Website: www.davis-art.com
“Enabling Devices: Toys for Special Children” (catalogue)
Enabling Devices
385 Warburton Avenue, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706
Phone: (800) 832-8697 Fax: (914) 478-0960
e-mail: customer_support@enablingdevices.com
Website: www.enablingdevices.com

“Kaplan: Concepts for Exceptional Children” (catalogue)
Kaplan
P.O. Box 609, Lewisville, NC 27023-0609
Phone: (800) 334-2014 Fax: (800) 452-7526
e-mail: info@kaplanco.com
Website: www.kaplanco.com

Literature Guides


Visual Arts


**Drama**


Dance


Music


**Software**

Baby Einstein (series) available on video, CD or DVD
The Baby Einstein Company
9285 Teddy Lane, Suite 200, Lone Tree, CO 80124
Phone: (800) 793-1454
Website: [www.babyeinstein.com](http://www.babyeinstein.com)

Usborne’s “First Thousand Words: In English and Spanish.” Scholastic, Inc., 1997.

“The Mozart Effect for Children: Volumes 1, 2 and 3” available as audio recordings
The Children’s Group, Inc.
1400 Bayly Street, Suite 7, Pickering, Ontario, L1W3R2, Canada
Phone: (800) 668-0242 Fax: (905) 831-1142
e-mail: lsummers@childrensgroup.com
Website: [www.childrensgroup.com](http://www.childrensgroup.com)

**Web Resources**

Please visit our Web site for over 1200 internet links to arts and education resources at [www.vsarts.org](http://www.vsarts.org)
American Alliance for Theatre and Education: [www.aate.com](http://www.aate.com)
American Sign Language Browser: [www.commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/aslweb/browser.htm](http://www.commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/aslweb/browser.htm)
Barahona Center for the study of Books in Spanish for Children: [www.csusm.edu/csbs](http://www.csusm.edu/csbs)
Center for Cultural Fluency: [www.msmc.la.edu/ccf/IR.gradesk-3.html](http://www.msmc.la.edu/ccf/IR.gradesk-3.html)
Center for New Discoveries in Learning: [www.howtolearn.com](http://www.howtolearn.com)
Children’s Music at Mabel’s: [www.mabels.com/child.html](http://www.mabels.com/child.html)
Children’s Music in the United Kingdom: [www.childrensmusic.co.uk](http://www.childrensmusic.co.uk)
Children’s Music Network: [www.cmnonline.org](http://www.cmnonline.org)
Children’s Music Web: [www.childrensmusic.org](http://www.childrensmusic.org)
Crayola: [www.crayola.com](http://www.crayola.com)
CyberDance - Ballet on the Net: [www.cyberdance.org](http://www.cyberdance.org)
Deaf.com - Your Gateway to the Deaf Community: [www.deaf.com](http://www.deaf.com)
Disney: [www.disney.go.com](http://www.disney.go.com)
Getty’s Art Education Website: [www.getty.edu/education](http://www.getty.edu/education)
Goldenbooks: [www.goldenbooks.com](http://www.goldenbooks.com)
Handspeak: A Sign Language Dictionary Online: [www.handspeak.com](http://www.handspeak.com)
Houghton Mifflin’s Education Place: [www.eduplace.com](http://www.eduplace.com)
Incredible Art Department: [www.artswire.org](http://www.artswire.org)
KidBiz: [www.kidbiz.com](http://www.kidbiz.com)
KIDdiddles: [www.kididdles.com](http://www.kididdles.com)
KidzPage: [www.veeceet.com](http://www.veeceet.com)
KidzSing Garden of Songs: [www.gardenofsong.com](http://www.gardenofsong.com)
Legends and Lore - The Puppets Everything Place: [www.legendsandlore.com](http://www.legendsandlore.com)
Mama Lisa’s World: [www.mamalisa.com](http://www.mamalisa.com)
National Art Education Association: [www.naea-reston.org](http://www.naea-reston.org)
National Association for the Education of Young Children: [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)
National Theatre of the Deaf: [www.ntd.org](http://www.ntd.org)
PBS: [www.pbskids.org/totstv/english/puppets.html](http://www.pbskids.org/totstv/english/puppets.html)
Puppeteers of America: [www.puppeteers.org](http://www.puppeteers.org)
Scholastic Books: [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com)
Smithsonian Institute Folk Music: [www.si.edu/folkways](http://www.si.edu/folkways)
Spanish Booksellers: [www.spanishbooksellers.com](http://www.spanishbooksellers.com)
Organizations

Children’s Music Network
P.O. Box 1341
Evanston, IL  60204-1341
Phone: (847) 733-8003
e-mail: office@cmnonline.org
Website: www.cmnonline.org
Newsletter: “Pass It On”

The Council for Exceptional Children
1110 North Glebe Road, Suite 300
Arlington, VA  22201-5704
Phone: (888) CEC-SPED Fax: (703) 264-9494
TTY: (703) 264-9446
Website: www.cec.sped.org

Early Childhood Music and Movement Association
10691 Livingston Drive
Northglenn, CO  80234
Phone: (303) 457-8986
Website: www.ecmma.org

National Art Education Association
1916 Association Drive
Reston, VA  20191-1590
Phone: (703) 860-8000 Fax: (703) 860-2960
e-mail: naea@dgs.dgsys.com
Website: www.naea-reston.org

National Association for the Education of Young Children
1509 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC  20036-1426
Phone: (800) 424-2460 Fax: (202) 328-1846
Website: www.naeyc.org

NAEA/CEA Special Interest Group for Teachers of the Arts
c/o Dr. Beverly Gerber
Department of Special Education
Southern Connecticut State University
New Haven, CT  06515
Newsletter: “Learning Through the Arts - A Newsletter for Special Education Teachers of the Arts”

National Education Association
1201 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC  20036
Phone: (202) 833-4000
Website: www.nea.org

Sources for Recorded Music

A Gentle Wind: Songs and Stories for Children
P.O. Box 3103, Albany, NY 12203
Phone: (800) FUN-SONG
e-mail: hello@gentlewind.com
Website: www.gentlewind.com

American Melody
P.O. Box 270, Guilford, CT 06437
Phone: (203) 457-0881  Fax: (203) 457-2085
e-mail: ammelody@earthlink.net
Website: www.americanmelody.com

Music Design
4650 North Port Washington Road, Milwaukee, WI  53212-1062
Phone: (800) 862-7232  Fax: (414) 961-8381
e-mail: order@musicdesign.com
Website: www.musicdesign.com

New Sound Music (a division of Allegro Corporation)
81 Demerritt Place, Waterbury, VT 05676
Phone: (800) 342-0295 Fax: (800) 495-7045
e-mail: sales@newsoundmusic.com
Website: www.allegro-music.com

Rounder Kids (a division of Rounder Records Corporation)
P.O. Box 516, Montpelier, VT 05601
Phone: (800) 223-6357 Fax: (802) 223-5303
e-mail: buy@rounderkids.com
Website: www.rounder.com

Self-Produced Children’s Singer/Songwriters:

Jim Gill
Phone: (708) 763-9864 Fax: (708) 763-9888
Website: www.jimgill.com

Kathy Lowe
Phone: (603) 526-6152
Website: www.woodshades.com/KathyLowe

Kim Wallach
Phone: (603) 827-5588
e-mail: kimwallach@monad.net

Purly Gates
Website: www.purlygates.com