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METROPOLITAN
LIBRARY

Special Needs

Books available at the Columbus Metropolitan Library

NONFICTION

I See Things Differently: A First Look At Autism by Pat Thomas j616.85882

This is an age appropriate way to introduce the concept of Autism Spectrum Disorder for young children.

Some Kids Are Deaf by Lola M. Schaefer j362.42 S294s

This explains what life is like for a child who is hearing impaired and the activities they have to do differently from children with typical hearing.

Able To Play: Overcoming Physical Challenges by Glenn Stout j796.3570922

This book features four athletes who not only overcame their difficulties but excelled in professional sports.

FICTION

Rain Reign by Ann B. Martin, 2014 Juvenile Fiction: Martin

Rose has Aspergers and lives in a small town that does not quite know how to handle her. She loves homophones and the book is filled with them. She names her dog Rain, Reign. This is a beautiful story about a special needs child and her bond with her dog. A hurricane hits, and her dog gets lost, sending Rose's world into a spiral.

Mockingbird by Kathryn Erskine, 2010 Juvenile Fiction: Erskine

Caitlin cannot comprehend social cues. Kids make fun of her when she tries to be their friend. Caitlin has a support staff at her school that helps her with a caring counselor who tries to teach her acceptable behavior.

El Deafo by Cece Bell, 2014

Juvenile Fiction: Bell

Cece is hearing impaired. She is starting a new school where she is the only one. She also has a large hearing aid strapped to her chest. That makes it hard to attract friends. But this super ear makes it so she can hear things she shouldn't. Will she use this super power for good or evil?

Mindblind by Jennifer Roy, 2011

Teen Fiction: Roy

Nathaniel has Aspergers. It is my hope to recommend this for YALSA's Reader's Choice List. He refers to himself as an Aspie. He has genius level intelligence in math formulas. The formulas help him make sense of the very confusing social world around him.

Colin Fischer by Ashley Edward Miller & Jack Stentz, 2012

Teen Fiction: Miller

Author, Jack writes from experience. He is on the Autism Spectrum himself. Fourteen-year-old Colin Fischer's ability to pay close attention to detail gives him Sherlock Holmes level powers of deduction. This makes him the perfect person to solve a crime involving a gun at his school. Colin keeps his notebook with him at all times and records his observations while he tries to survive the "typical" world.

Fighting For Dontae by Mike Castan, 2012

Teen Fiction: Castan

Javier is a tough kid who is in a gang. When he is assigned to help out in his middle schools special needs class, he thinks his social life is over. Javier finds he really enjoys helping Dontae, a boy with both physical and mental disabilities.

Pinned by Sharon G. Flake, 2012

Teen Fiction: Flake

Autumn and Adonis are both teens dealing with disabilities. Autumn has a learning disability that makes reading a challenge. Adonis is in a wheelchair. Flake tells this story in the characters' alternating voices. This is a strong story about struggle, friendship and finding your strengths.

In The Cruisers: A Star Is Born by Walter Dean Myers, 2012

Teen Fiction: Myers

LaShonda has an opportunity to make her dreams of costume design come true. In order to pursue this, she will have to leave her autistic brother. They live in a group home together.

You Look Different In Real Life by Jennifer Castle, 2013

Teen Fiction: Castle

Justine is famous. She is part of a group of five teens who were part of a documentary called Five at Six. Filmmakers made a film about her, Felix, Nate, Kiera and Rory while they were in Kindergarten. Rory is on the Autism Spectrum. They were also in a second film called Five at Eleven. Justine is now sixteen and the filmmakers are back, but she is not sure she wants to do this anymore.