



Atal Matal (cat no 13)

Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities 2007

by Heidi Cortner Boiesen

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Project Leader: Heidi Cortner Boiesen Consultants: Sissel Hofgaard Swensen Introduction: Heidi Cortner Boiesen and Nina Askvig Reidarson Language Editor: Elizabeth Page Design: Marcela Montes Printed by Schwabe AG, Basel

Catalogue distribution and information about the exhibition:

IBBY Secretariat, Nonnenweg 12, Postfach, CH-4003 Basel, Switzerland Tel.(+41 61) 272 29 17, Fax (+41 61) 272 27 57 e-mail: ibby@ibby.org, www.ibby.org

We gratefully acknowledge the support of Schwabe AG for its contribution towards the production of th is catalogue.

Cover illustrations:

Watt, Mélanie, Scaredy Squirrel (cat no 28) Damm, Antje, Was ist das? (cat no 31)

Contents illustration: Tre scalini per Serena (cat. no. 7)

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Foreword

The present annotated catalogue continues the IBBY project that started in 1997: 'Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities'. In 2002 the Documentation Centre was transferred from the Department of Special Needs Education of the University of Oslo to the Haug School and Resource Centre (HSRC). The 2007 collection is the second in a series of regular biennial selections that will be presented by the Haug School. The IBBY National Sections were requested to submit books that were published in 2002 or later. We have also included five outstanding titles that were published earlier than 2002.

There were many positive reactions to the previous catalogues that were distributed internationally, including the special 2002 Jubilee edition. Each selection was first exhibited at the Bologna International Children's Book Fair and has subsequently travelled all over the world.

For this catalogue and exhibition, titles have also been evaluated from countries where the National Sections did not participate in the project.

Some particularly relevant titles were sent directly by publishers or submitted by enthusiastic contact persons. The aim was to select 40 outstanding books, but due to an overwhelming response to our invitation, almost 120 titles were evaluated, of which 62 were selected. This was the responsibility of the Director of the IBBY Documentation Centre of Books for Disabled Young People in Norway. Sissel Hofgaard Swensen, formerly at the centre 'Books for Everyone' in Oslo, has given valuable assistance.

Our most sincere gratitude goes to colleagues and partners who helped us identify some of the best books currently available for disabled young people. We hope that this catalogue will encourage publishers to translate and produce new books, and to stimulate parents and educators to share them with disabled young people.

Oslo and Basel February 2007

Heidi Cortner Boiesen, Director, IBBY Documentation Centre of Books for Disabled Young People

Elizabeth Page, IBBY Director of Member Services, Communications and Project Development



En Casa (cat no 24)

Introduction

any young people with disabilities cannot read or enjoy a regular book, or they cannot find a suitable book among the many publications available. Therefore, they need specially produced books or selected regular books of literary and artistic quality that meet their special needs regarding design, language, plot structure and pictures.

It is neither possible nor desirable to make a blueprint of what is a suitable book, because young people with disabilities are, like all of us, individuals with very different needs and skills. Only a wide choice of books based on profound knowledge of the various special needs can, in the end, give young people with disabilities access to books.

As an instrument for communication and participation, literature has an important role to play in the development of our identity and quality of life. IBBY launched this project in order to give young people with disabilities the opportunity to enjoy books as others enjoy them.

For the nominations, the IBBY National Sections were asked to cover one or all of the following main categories:

 Books produced specifically for young people with special needs, published in 2002 or later

The types of books sought in this category were:

- Picture books with sign language illustrations
- b. Story books with BLISS or pictograms (non-verbal communication systems, where words and concepts are represented by pictorial symbols)
- c. Books with tactile pictures (raised pictures) that blind children can understand, and tactile/textile books for young people with mental disabilities or multiple handicaps
- **d.** Special "easy-to-read" books for young people with mental disabilities

General easy readers or easy reader series were not included.

II. General picture books, published in 2002 or later

When selecting entries for this category, special needs with regard to design, topics, illustrations and texts had to be considered in combination with artistic and literary quality. We also stressed the importance of books with a "grown-up" look that are suitable for adolescents with language disabilities.

We hoped to discover books that inspire joy, curiosity, and imagination, as well as those that encourage general understanding and special skills, such as language, visual perception and motor skills.



Stop bugging me! [cat. no. 11]

111.

General children's books – picture books and stories – portraying young people with disabilities, published in 2002 or later

The books in this category portray people with disabilities, children as well as adults, books that not only focus on their disabilities and the difference it makes to their lives, but which also stress similarities between them and the world at large. Important books in this connection include stories that open the way to understanding and acceptance, and to the inclusion of young people with disabilities in society.

The final selection and the number of books listed in this catalogue is rather limited, and does not give the full picture of existing books and possibilities. Nevertheless, we hope that this catalogue and exhibition will promote more understanding and knowledge.

Furthermore, we hope that it will suggest ideas for the publication and promotion of new books in this field.

Twelve books each illustrating a different kind of approach for children with special needs

Among the many good books that we received for this project, we would like to make a special mention of twelve, each illustrating a different kind of approach for children with special needs.

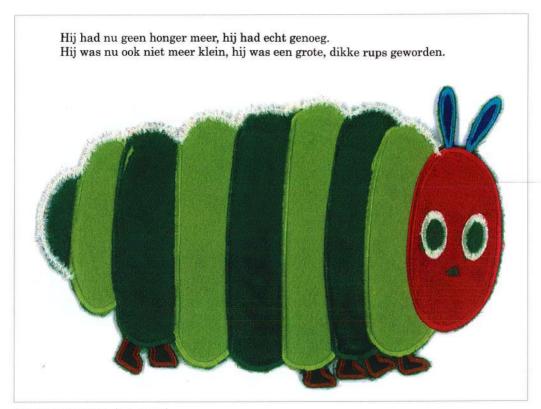
Children with no hearing difficulties develop language by playing with words. Similarly, deaf children develop their primary language, the sign language, by playing with signs. For this project, several countries have sent us books with sign language. We have included books in Italian, American, Swedish and Norwegian Sign Language. Pino's Dagbok [Pino's Diary] by Agneta Norelid and Eva Pils (cat. no. 4) is an example of how an ordinary picture book can be adapted for a disabled child by pasting stickers of Sign Language or BLISS symbols beneath the text. A disabled child and a person without disabilities can then enjoy the book together.

Kaikki onnistuu [Everything will be OK] by Susanna Huikari (cat. no. 9) is a Finnish picture book with BLISS symbols added to the standard text. BLISS is an international non-verbal pictorial system that can help non-speaking people communicate. Some young people with mental disabilities also use BLISS as a means of communication, often in combination with photographs and pictures. By telling the story through amusing and

lively pictures combined with a regular text and BLISS symbols, this book can reach readers with different needs and skills.

A tactile picture book can give children with visual impairments the possibility of enjoying picture books. This is an important kind of book for blind children because it stimulates the sense of touch and the art of recognizing and interpreting shapes, thus preparing them for learning Braille later on. Provided that the illustrations are comprehensible to the blind child, they can help develop language, although not all tactile pictures are easy to understand for a child without visual experience. We know that conventional, realistic pictures even if they are in raised print, are difficult to interpret for children who are blind from birth. If such pictures are to be legible, they should represent small objects with the shape, size and texture that a blind child is familiar with in everyday life.

Certainly, children who are blind can take pleasure in tactile representations even if they cannot interpret all the pictures, or need guidance from a sighted person in order to understand them. But it is important that there are also books available with pictures that blind children can read spontaneously and without help. Some tactile picture books have small, simple, non-figurative or geometrical shapes and characters. Contrary to conventional pictures these figures need no visual experience in order to be understood.



Rupsje Nooitgenoeg (cat. no. 12)

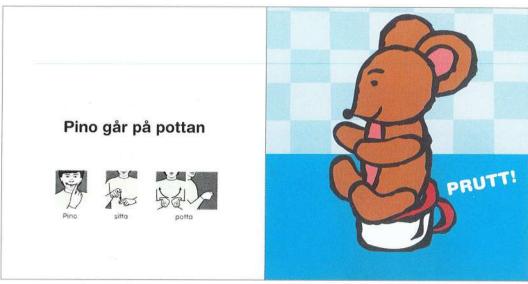
Such a book is **Ruvidino in piscina** [Ruvidino at the swimming pool] (cat. no. 16). Ruvidino and his friends are presented as small square objects of different texture.

La sorpresa de Nandi (Handa's Surprise) by Eileen Browne (cat. no. 10) is one of four books produced as part of a programme designed for enjoying reading to and with blind children. The publisher granted the Mexican association Luciérnaga Literaria (Literary Firefly), permission to unbind regular picture books and stamp the Braille text on the pages.

Nanairo no Kura [Seven coloured Kura] by Mac Koba (cat. no. 15), is an example of how to cut the costs of producing books for visually disabled children. The book is not

bound in the conventional way – it is simply cut and folded.

A cloth book is another kind of tactile picture book. **Stop bugging me!** (cat. no. 11) by Ruth Brown is a hand-made book that may not be easily understood by a blind child on its own, although sighted and visually disabled children can enjoy it together. Realistic insects of various sizes are sewn into the book, which is really a matching game without commentary. At the back of the book is a small pouch where the matching circular Braille disks are kept. Another version of the book has been made with smaller scale insects for children without visual



Pino's dagbok (cat. no. 4)

disabilities, but who have learning disabilities.

Young people with reading difficulties spend a lot of time and effort on decoding words and then understanding and mastering the skill of reading. Motivating reading requires a wide supply of easy-readers that have fascinating and age relevant stories.

Du er vel vakker [How lovely you are] by Erna Osland, (cat. no. 19) is a story that will be enjoyed by young adults as well as older persons with intellectual disabilities.

General picture books are another source of reading and a pleasant means of stimulating visual perception, language and communication and expressing feelings. These are important books because they can be picked from the general stock and are, therefore, widely available. Samsara Dog by Helen Manos, (cat. no. 26), is a picture

book for older children that explains reincarnation through the use of poetic text and illustrations.

Some writers and artists have created books that portray people with disabilities with sensitivity and insight. Such books can answer questions and destroy the myths connected with disabilities.

The Children's Book Council of Iran in collaboration with the Department of Special Education at the Ministry of Education and UNICEF, has started several projects to advocate the introduction of inclusive education in the Iranian education system. One of the projects is publishing literary texts with quality illustrations in order to create more contact and understanding among disabled and ordinary primary school children. Shab bekhayr farmandeh [Good Night, Commander] (cat. no. 32) by Ahmad Akbarpour is one of these stories.

The Mexican collection Yo soy igual a ti, pero diferente (We are all the same, but different), includes four titles aimed at young readers from kindergarten through grade school. The books focus on the similarities as well as the differences that prevail among all human beings. Listos, cámara, acción [Ready, steady, go] (cat. no. 37) by Claudia Burr and Ana Piño, encourages understanding and communication between disabled and non-disabled children who share an educational and social environment.

Butterflies by Susanne Gervay (cat. no. 45), is a story about the emotional and physical impact that severe burns can have on a person. Katherine is a young woman who has developed an exceptional inner strength. From a preoccupation with surface scars, she is eventually able to accept

herself as she is and form balanced relationships with her family and friends.

Finally, we would like to draw attention to one book, **Moudouken Andoryu no ichinichi** [A day with Andrew: a guide dog] by Susumu Matsui, [cat. no. 50]. With great humour the visually disabled author lets his guide dog Andrew tell his own story. Besides the general picture book version, the book is produced in six different media: a multimedia DAISY, a transliterate version on tape, a Braille version, a large print version, a floppy disc version and a digital [E-book] version – all for the same price!

Heidi Cortner Boiesen Nina Askvig Reidarson





「みてみて! ボクのからだにいろがついたよ!

Nanairo no Kura (cat. no. 15)

Sign language Illustrations



Matteo è sordo (cat. no. 1)

1 Anniballi, Simonetta (text and ill.) Balestri, Rita (water-colours) Matteo è sordo [Matteo is deaf] Rome: Sinnos Editrice, 2003, 52pp. (Strumenti per educare [Instruments to learn]) ISBN 88-86061-80-3

Matteo is immersed in silence. For him, whoever speaks to him looks like a fish silently mouthing. After a while he is fitted with a hearing aid. Learning to speak is tough, but his parents gently guide him towards discovering sounds and words. Together they learn the Italian Sign Language (LIS) – a language that could even be used to communicate under water!

The book can be used as an approach to LIS. It includes a simple game, "Memory, signs and words" that helps the reader understand the Italian Sign Language - the written as well as the spoken language.

2 Millman, Isaac Moses sees a play

New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004, 30pp. (Frances Foster Books)

ISBN 0-374-35066-3

Moses and his classmates, who are all deaf or hard-of-hearing, are going to see a performance at the Little Theatre of the Deaf. A class from another school joins them, and Moses finds a new friend who has just moved to the United States. Because Manuel knows neither English nor sign language, Moses tries to communicate with him using body gestures. American Sign Language is used extensively throughout the book. The author has included a key that helps to explain the arrows and symbols that are used

3 Moriggi, Sigrun Nygaard La hendene snakke [Let the hands talk] Oslo: Aschehoug, 2006, 211pp. ISBN 82-03-24622-2

This Norwegian Sign Language dictionary shows 2,500 words from children's everyday life - at home, at school and in their spare time. There are concrete situations and more abstract ideas such as feelings, thoughts and dreams. Each word is explained using an explicitly drawn illustration, and every page has amusing colour illustrations showing objects and situations that are connected to the words.

4 Norelid, Agneta/Pils, Eva (text) Andersson, Kenneth (ill.) Pino's dagbok (Pino's diary) Stockholm: Pinolek, 2004, 46pp. ISBN 91-974407-0-1

The books about the little teddy bear called Pino are illustrated in warm colours and have very short sentences that are directly connected to the pictures. The illustrations are distinct in colour and form and are related to a child's everyday life. For children with disabilities the Special pedagogiska Institutet in Sweden has produced a sheet of stickers in Swedish Sign Language and BLISS symbols that correspond to the story.

5 Rehn, Annika (text) Billeson, Göran (photos) Ebbas hund [Ebba's dog] Umeå: Specialpedagogiska Institutet, 2005, 14pp. ISBN 91-7772-970-6

This is an everyday story about Ebba and her dog. The very simple text is accompanied by Swedish Sign Language, which makes it easy to understand and thus focus on what is being told. *Ebbas hund* is one of a series of books produced for children who need augmentative and alternative communication.

6 Tidholm, Anna-Clara (text and ill.) Alla får åka med [Everybody can come] Stockholm: Alfabeta, 2006, 26pp. ISBN 91-501-0435-7

A little girl is driving along the road in her blue truck. Along the way she picks up some individuals who need cheering up: a boy who has fallen down and a weeping teddy bear. There is room for everyone and she takes them to her house for a meal. The very simple text and illustrations tell small children about compassion and caring for others. The story is also published on a video (VHS) produced at the Specialpedagogiska Institutet, with Swedish Sign Language.

Books with PCS or BLISS symbols

7 Quarzo, Guido (text) Brombin, Orietta (ill.) Tre scalini per Serena [Three steps for Serena] Rome: Editori Riuniti, 2003, 24pp. (Libri per bambini molto speciali [Books for very special children]) ISBN 88-359-5471-1

Even though Serena has difficulties using her legs, the only thing that she is afraid of is going up and down the stairs. It's like walking on a dragon! One day her father builds a little red staircase with just three steps. The stairs end on a small platform with a low railing. Little by little Serena learns to overcome her fear and succeeds in reaching the platform. The text is printed in block letters and the international picture language PCS (Pictures Communication Symbols).



Kaikki onnistuu (cat. no. 9)

8 Uchida, Yumi (text) Nishiya, Ikuko (ill.) Hiromi to Mayuko no futari dake no Gaishutsu [Hiromi and Mayuko's day out] Tokyo: Seifudo Shoten, 2006, 19pp. ISBN 4-88313-422-9

Hiromi and Mayuko are allowed to go town on the bus by themselves. The story about their experiences is told with photos, drawings and Pictograms, and is supplemented by an easy-to-read text – how their hearts beat when they were paying the bus fare; how they enjoyed themselves choosing what to eat and what to buy.

Mentally disabled people developed the story and illustrations, while the staff of their group home took charge of the overall editing and production.

9 Huikari, Susanna (text) Kolehmainen, Mika (ill.) Kaikki onnistuu [Everything will be OK] Oulu: Lohipadon erityiskoulu, 2005, 19pp.

Markus and Pekka are great friends. Pekka speeds along on his roller-skates behind Markus' wheelchair. After helping an old neighbour, they receive tickets for a concert. Their friend Petra wins a prize and they are all invited to go up on stage to sing along with the band.

The story is told in easy text and BLISS symbols, using the new BLISS grammar that came into use in 2005. The illustrations are happy and fast moving.



Tre scalini per Serena (cat. no. 7)



Hiromi to Mayuko no futari dake no Gaishutsu (cat. no. 8)



Stop bugging me! (cat. no.11)



Atal Matal (cat no 13)

Books with Braille or tactile illustrations

10 Browne, Eileen La Sorpresa de Nandi

Original title: Handa's Surprise Transl. by María Cecilia Silva-Díaz Caracas: Ediciones Ekaré, 2004, 26pp.

ISBN 980-257-196-2

Nandi wants to take her friend Tindi a surprise gift and prepares a basket of different fruits. She carries the basket on her head as she walks to Tindi's village, and wonders which fruit Tindi will like the most. She doesn't notice that, one by one, different animals are stealing her fruits. When the basket is empty she passes beneath a tangerine tree that has just been butted by a goat. Dozens of tangerines fall from the tree, filling the basket again. When she arrives at the village, Tindi is very happy with Nandi's surprise. How was Nandi to know that tangerines are her favourite fruit?

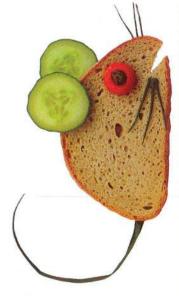
11 Brown, Ruth Stop bugging me! A cloth picture book Toronto: Ruth Brown, 2006, 12pp.

This tactile cloth book was created for children with little or no sight, however, it is also suitable for young children with other disabilities. It can be read as a book about insects, but it is also a game, where you match the insects to a circular Braille disc. To help a sighted person, who might struggle with Braille, the name of each insect is sewn on the back of the corresponding disc. An added quality is the choice of tactile fabrics for the various pages, which vary from Canadian deer-skin and Nigerian Each textile is identified by a sewn-on label.

12 Carle, Eric Rupsje Nooitgenoeg Original title: The Very Hungry Caterpillar Rotterdam: Lemniscaat, 2006, 22pp.

This is a special version of the muchloved picture book The Very Hungry Caterpillar, designed and produced by Dreaming Fingers, an imprint of Karadi Tales, Chennai. The books are hand-made in India in cooperation with visually handicapped children and their helpers. In order to experience not only the Braille text, but also the pictures, various materials have been used. There are small variations from book to book: some butterflies are pink, others red. blue or purple, making each copy unique. For each copy sold in the Netherlands, one copy of the book is donated to educational projects for blind children in India.

cotton, to oilcloth from Finland, and so on.



Was ist das? (cat no 31)

13 Farmani, Zahra (design) Atal Matal A cloth picture book

Tehran: Children's Book Council of Iran/ Donya Institute Cloth Books Series, 2006

Atal Matal is a very old Iranian game played to the accompaniment of a nonsense rhyme. Players sit on the ground with both legs stretched out in front of them. The game leader invites the children to sing the song, and with every beat he/she gently touches one leg after another. When the rhyme is finished, the player who is the last to be touched must fold one leg at the knee. The game continues until only one leg remains in the circle: that player is declared the winner. This popular game can now be played using the cloth book. The book has seven characters: the extended family and its cow. At the back of the book there is a centipede with even more legs. Atal Matal can be enjoyed by children with different disabilities and can also be used for creating other stories. The cloth bag that holds the book includes one CD with the text and another with the music.

14 Bruna, Dick Relief pictures by Annica Norberg Muu, säger kon [Moo, says the cow] Enskede: TPB, 2006, 14pp.

This simple board book for visually impaired children represents an excerpt of the original book by Dick Bruna. The text is in large print and Braille. The illustrations are soft fabric reliefs with different textures. The book is published by the Swedish Library for Talking Books and Braille and is not for sale.

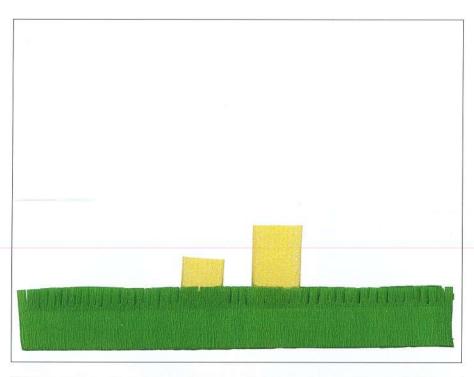
15 Koba, Mac (text and ill.) Nanairo no Kura [Seven coloured Kura] Saitama: Universal Design Picture Book Center, 2004.

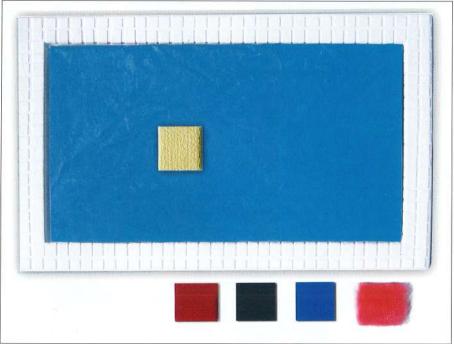
An opaque jelly fish wants to have pretty colours. One day, invited by the sun, it swims up to the surface. There, its seethrough body shines with all the colours of the rainbow. In this picture book the flat coloured illustrations are made tactile by adding translucent UV cured resin ink. The red, yellow and green colours are expressed by using various patterns of dots or stripes. The publisher is not a professional, but the original way of binding - the book is only folded - has cut the cost of making picture books in Braille and thereby enables the publisher to provide children with two low-priced books each year.

16 Ruvidino in piscina

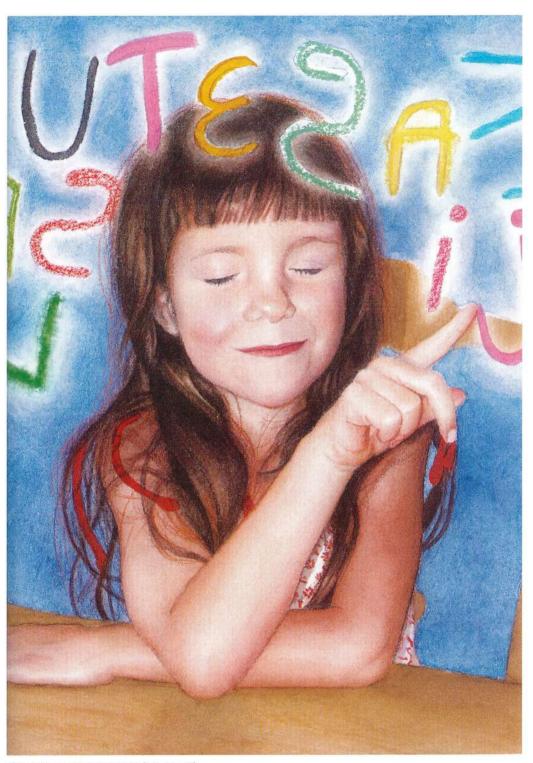
[Ruvidino at the swimming pool] Milan: Istituto dei Ciechi di Milano, 2002, 5pp. (Tocca e impara [Touch and learn])

Ruvidino and his friends at the swimming pool are represented by small objects of different shapes and texture. The familiarity of the story helps the children to associate it with their own personal experiences. The simple text is in standard print block letters and Braille.





Ruvidino in piscina (cat. no.27)



Lily and the mixed-up letters (cat. no. 47)

Special "easy-to-read" books

17 Bruna, Dick Het huis van nijntje [Miffy's House] Soest: Het Sprekend Boek, 2006, CDROM.

The Dutch foundation Het Sprekend Boek (The Spoken Book) was established to make books accessible for children with disabilities. The book is adapted through the use of Power Point presentations. With just one button, the disabled child can turn a page with its subsequent text, and can therefore independently "read" the book at its own pace and as many times as wanted. There are three choices: to listen to the text while watching the illustrations; spoken text and illustrations supported by written text; spoken text and illustrating the most important words on the page.

18 Bradman, Tony (text)
Collins, Ross (ill.)
I due Jack
Original title: The two Jacks

Transl. by Laura Russo Rome: Sinnos Editrice, 2006, 64pp. (Leggimi! [*Read me!*])

ISBN 88-7609-066-5

Jack Pane and Jack Pena are two very different boys. One is a model student - the other is the worst of them all. One day their teacher breaks her leg, and a substitute teacher comes to take her place. This book, dealing with preconceived notions, is part of a new fiction series specially produced for children with dyslexia.

19 Osland, Erna (text)
Hansen-Krone, Johanne Marie (ill.)
Du er vel vakker
[How lovely you are]
Oslo: Det Norske Samlaget,
2006, 135pp. ISBN 82-521-6879-5

Hanna meets Hermann, and they fall deeply in love. Hermann wants to be a father, but is Hanna ready to become a mother? Will society allow them to create a family together? The delicate question of contraception is one of the issues in this beautiful love story for young adults with mental disabilities.

20 Petersen, Keld Kan du gætte det? [Can you guess it?] Aalborg: Døveskolernes Materialecenter, 2006, 64pp. ISBN 87-91274-57-5

This book, though lacking sign language illustrations, is produced for children with hearing impairments. It visualizes riddles by explaining how one word can have several different meanings.

21 Vars, Elle Márjá (text) Aadnevik, Harald (ill.) Máilmmi láikkimus olmmo [The laziest man in the world] Indre Billefjord: Iðut, 2006, 66pp. ISBN 82-7601-113-6

Hánno is the laziest man in the world. He doesn't like money and never goes shopping. Everything he needs, he can find right there in his neighbourhood. All he ever does is relax and take care of his cow. But is he really lazy? This is an Easy Reader in the North Sami language. The illustrations help to give young readers information about a way of life without demands and stress.

Books from the regular production

22 Carmi, Giora (text and ill.)
A circle of friends

Long Island City, NY: Star Bright Books, 2003, 32pp. ISBN 1-932065-00-828

When a young boy shares his muffin with a homeless man, he unwittingly begins a cycle of good will. Without a single written word, the story speaks about helping, sharing and caring.

23 Jafa, Manorama (text)
Mistry, Suvidha (ill.)
Cock + Hen
New Dehli: Khaas Kitaab Foundation,
2006, 14pp.
ISBN 81-88236-31-4

Once there was a tree near the sea. Under the tree live a cockerel, a hen, a lizard, a crocodile, a tortoise, a crab and a snake. One day when the hen and the cockerel leave their nest of eggs to find food, the nest is hit by a huge wave. All the eggs are carried out to sea. The rooster comforts his grieving wife, and together they find some different eggs lying on the sand. They sit on the eggs, and when they hatch, out come a baby bird, a baby crocodile, a baby lizard and a baby crab. Even if they look a little strange, the cockerel and hen lovingly take them all under their wings.

24 Janisch, Heinz (text)
Bansch, Helga (ill.)
En casa [At home]
Original title: Zu Haus
Transl. by Cristina Rodríguez Aguilar
Zaragoza: Edelvives, 2004, 24pp.
ISBN 84-263-5266-9

The little red hen lives with her friends, the frog, the beaver and the mouse, but she wonders how happy she would be if she were to live somewhere else. With very little text written in simple verse, the hen imagines herself living in the library or in the bell tower, in a tree or among the penguins. Finally she comes to the conclusion that home is the place where you live with the ones you love.

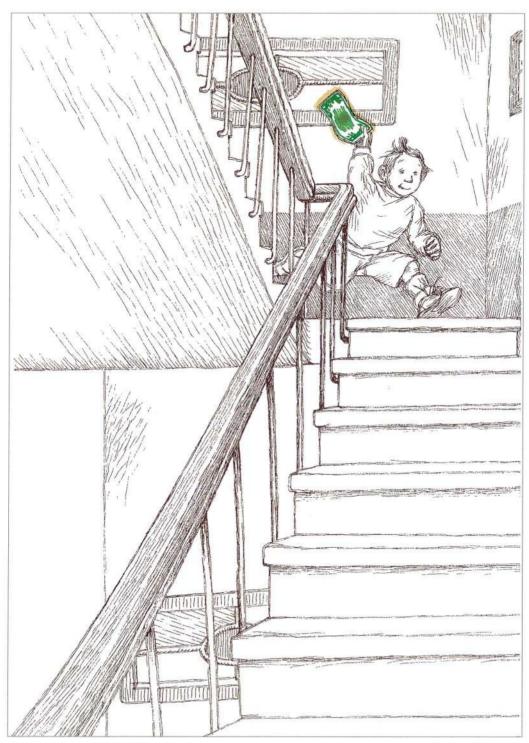
25 Kotobi, Soroor (text) Mafakheri, Ali (ill.) Qatar bazi [Our train] Tehran: Sabaviz, 2004, 22pp. ISBN 964-505-141-X

This is a picture book that shows the family together, showing relationships and differences. The illustrations are vivid and humorous and capture the fun atmosphere of the story. The language is simple and appropriate.

26 Manos, Helen (text) Vivas, Julie (ill.) Samsara Dog Kingswood, SA: Working Title Press, 2006, 36pp. ISBN 1-876288-62-0

Samsara is the Buddhist expression for the weary everyday lives we lead until we reach Nirvana. "For we are all travellers on the wheel of life. We halt, we pause and take new births."

Dog had lived several lives before he came to live with a small boy. There he learnt the gift of compassion and finally reached Nirvana. This is a picture book for older children that looks at life, love and dying from a Buddhist perspective.



A circle of friends (cat. no. 22)



Pero, ¿Dónde está Ornicar? (cat. no. 27)

27 Stehr, Gérald (text)
Glasauer, Willi (ill.)
Pero, ¿Dónde está Ornicar?
[But where is Platypus?]
Original title: Mais où est donc Ornicar?
Transl. by Mónica Bergna y Gabriela
México City: Ediciones Tecolote, 2004,
30pp. ISBN 968-7381-73-6

For the animals it is time to start school. The teacher decides to place them in groups according on their characteristics. The duck-billed platypus does not know where he fits in, because he was born as an egg, has the beak of a bird, but drinks milk. He runs away feeling alone and unprotected, but his friends look for him, and he is given first prize for being the "best friend". This sweet little story shows how children who are different can be integrated and be made welcome. The book includes a simple animal classification chart.

28 Watt, Mélanie Scaredy Squirrel

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2006, 32pp. ISBN 1-55337-959-4

Scaredy, an endearing but obsessive little squirrel, is ensconced in a fairly comfortable routine in his familiar oak tree. His carefully prepared emergency kit is ready against threats – real (bees) and imagined (sharks) – from the world outside. But when he is suddenly thrust into the unknown, he makes a glorious leap that changes his life – at least a little bit.

29 Wild, Margaret (text) Brooks, Ron (ill.) Fox Crows Nest, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 2000, 28pp. ISBN 1-86448-933-2

The bush is on fire! Magpie is rescued by Dog and is carried to safety, but one of her wings is burnt, and she realizes that she will never be able to fly again. She sees no point in living. Dog has lost an eye, but he still thinks that life has much to offer. He convinces her that together they can form a whole new creature. When he runs with Magpie perched on his back it is almost like flying, and she promises him: "I will be your missing eye and you will be my wings." For a long time they live contentedly, until Fox enters the scene. He reminds Magpie of what she had lost, and tempts her to leave Dog by promising to make her fly again. A powerful story about friendship, betrayal and love.

30 Magallanes, Alejandro Esto no es [This is not] México City: Ediciones SM, 2005, 40pp. ISBN 970-688-596-X

31 Damm, Antje Was ist das? [What is that?] Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag, 2006, 88pp. ISBN 3-8067-5127-7

These two books (30 and 31) explore different ways of perceiving ordinary objects that we see around us every day. Simple alterations transform a gadget or an image into an amusing character. The text and images join in a repetitious dialogue. Using their imagination, the readers can participate in the game by guessing what the object looks like or represents.

Books portraying people with disabilities

32 Akbarpour, Ahmad (text) Zahedi, Morteza (ill.) Shab bekhayr farmandeh [Good night, Commander] Tehran: Unicef Publication Unit, 2004, 22pp. ISBN 964-6513-94-8

This story is about disabilities caused by war and its aftermath. A little boy has lost his mother in a bombardment that also cost him his leg. He is filled with thoughts of revenge, and in his room he recreates the war scenes with himself as commander. As he advances he comes face to face with the enemy commander, only to see a boy who has also lost his mother and a leg and has come to war to take revenge. He orders a ceasefire and makes friends with the enemy commander.

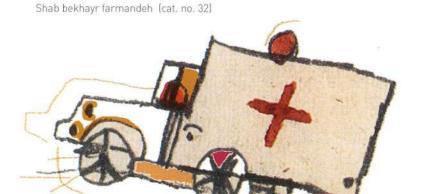
33 Álvarez, Blanca Palabras de pan [Bread words] Zaragoza: Edelvives, 2005, 161pp. ISBN 84-263-5919-1

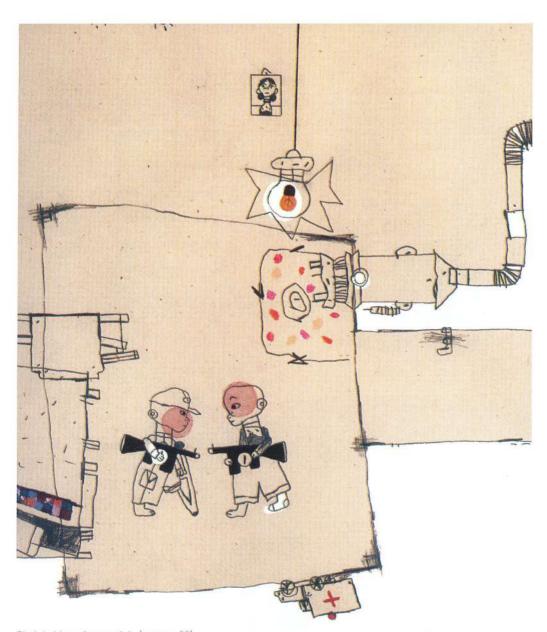
After the Spanish Civil War, the military hunted for the rebels who fought against the regime. One of the rebels tries to escape through the woods close to a small village. As he mourns all that he has lost in the war, he discovers a young girl walking her cow and sees that she is blind.

Slowly and carefully he approaches her and asks for some bread in exchange for a story. Little by little, the relationship becomes close. As a precaution the girl's grandfather follows her from a distance, only to witness how his grandchild and the fugitive discover who they really are – father and daughter. This is a beautiful story about love, family and ideals to fight for.

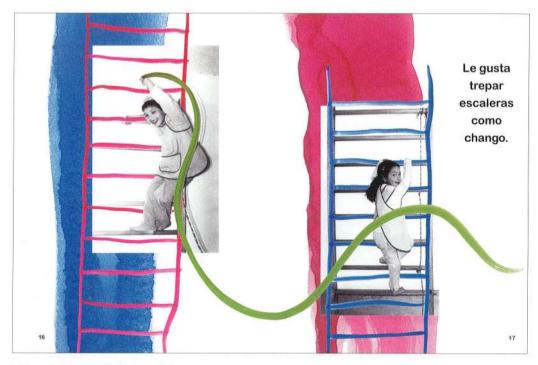
34 Arena, Felice Wish Camberwell, Victoria: Penguin Group, 2005, 121pp. ISBN 0-14-330212-4

Seb's mother has cancer, and Seb believes that there's only one way to make her better – he has to clap his hands and make a wish on one hundred aeroplanes as they fly overhead. The trouble is, he lives on a remote farm and not many planes ever fly over it. He decides to run away to the airport, where he finds a new friend and has the adventure of a lifetime. But will he make all his wishes before it's too late?





Shab bekhayr farmandeh (cat. no. 32)



Listos, cámara, acción (cat. no. 37)



Was ist das? (cat no 31)

35 Barlow, Steve/Skidmore, Steve Funny business: Can't you take a joke?

Edinburgh: Barrington Stoke, 2006, 53pp. ISBN 1-842993-74-7

Ben wants to go on stage as a stand-up comedian – except he has to sit down in his wheelchair. He has been made fun of all his life, so he does not want to tell jokes that are hurtful to anyone, and wonders if there is another way to make people laugh? Then, as he is making fun of himself, he makes people laugh! "They say that comedy comes out of pain. If that's true, I'm never going to run out of jokes!"

36 Brugman, Alyssa Finding grace

Crows Nest, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 2006, 204pp. ISBN 1-74114-932-0

Eighteen-year-old Rachel has just left school and thinks she knows everything. She takes up a live-in job looking after Grace – a woman with brain damage. From initially treating Grace indifferently like a thing or a doll, Rachel learns to accept and care for her and develops an urge to find out as much as possible about her. In treating Grace like a friend, Rachel finds her own identity.

37 Burr, Claudia/Piñó, Ana (text) Saavedra, Maite (photos) Listos, cámara, acción [Ready, steady, go] México City: Ediciones Tecolote, 2005, 43pp. ISBN 970-9718-00-2

This book can be used with children in kindergarten to diminish the fear of facing what is different or unknown. Written in simple language and short texts, the book is illustrated with distinct and easy-to-understand black and white photographs. It shows that the integration of children with special needs is possible in a gentle and flexible environment that is capable of adjusting to the needs of all.

38 Butler, Geoff (text and ill.) The hangashore

Toronto: Tundra Books, 1998, 30pp. ISBN 0-88776-444-4

A "hangashore" is a Newfoundland term for someone who is something between a good-for-nothing and someone to be pitied. At the end of the war a self-important magistrate arrives in the small fishing village. His pompous behaviour soon clashes with that of a young man with Down Syndrome. John does not understand or care about titles, and he judges people by their actions. It takes a near tragedy at sea to show the magistrate that a hangashore can come in all forms.

39 Ciwoniuk, Barbara Igor

Warsaw: TELBIT, 2005, 143pp. ISBN 83-88109-56-1

This is Igor's diary. We meet him as he is about to enter secondary school. One of the most important aspects of the book is that Igor suffers from dyslexia. However, it is not a theme that dominates the book. The central message of the book is that one can fight with the symptoms as well as lead a rich and interesting life. The warm and optimistic way the author writes about dyslexia can help to bring about a positive change in the way of thinking about this common learning disorder.

40 Coates, Jan (text)
Priestley, Alice (ill.)
Rainbows in the dark
Toronto: Second Story Press, 2006,
24pp. ISBN 1-896764-95-9

Abby is bored while waiting for her mother in the second-hand clothes store. A young lady with a dog enters. Abby explains to her that no dogs are allowed in the store, but the lady replies that he is working. She goes on to explain that although he helps her get around safely, he is no good with colours, so perhaps Abby might help her pick out some clothes for a very special occasion? With Abby's assistance, a wonderfully colourful outfit is soon ready for Joanna. To thank her new friend for her help, Joanna gives Abby and her mother a couple of concert tickets. What a surprise when Abby sees Joanna at the recital. wearing the clothes she helped to choose! Joanna's gift of music and magic creates a perfect ending and proves there is no harm in wishing for rainbows.

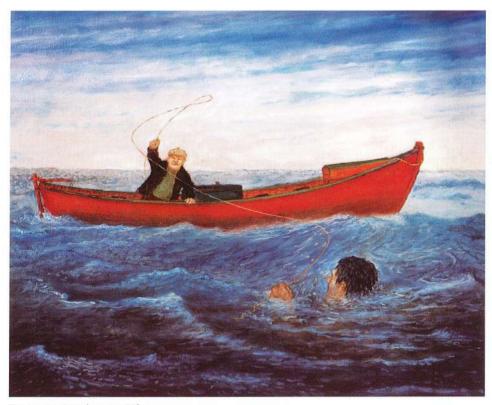
41 Díaz, Gloria Cecilia (text) Lucini, Chata (ill.) Óyeme con los ojos [Listen with your eyes] Madrid: Anaya, 2000, 83pp. [Sopa de libros [Book soup]] ISBN 84-207-4403-4

Horacio has lived in a silent world since he had an accident when he was very small. Every day he looks at the mansion across the street, with the carved stone façade and oval windows, wondering about the woman who lives there and who never goes out. One day his curiosity gets the better of him and he sneaks in through an open door.

42 Dwight, Laura (text and photos) Brothers and sisters

Long Island City, NY: Star Bright Books, 2005, 40pp. ISBN 1-887734-80-5

This book is a photographic portrait of six families in which one or more of the siblings has a disability. Like most brothers and sisters, they play together, compete with each other, bicker a little bit, and help one another. The photos are real and unsentimental, and the writer/photographer has succeeded in making each portrait both informative and sensitive. A glossary and list of resources are included at the end of the book.



The hangashore (cat. no. 38)



Rainbows in the dark (cat. no. 40)



Brothers and sisters (cat. no. 40)



More than anything, I wish I could walk by myself. Then I would help Miss Sandy with her chores instead of just watching her. But I have cerebral palsy, and my muscles don't work well enough for me to get around without my wheelchair or walker.



Nathan's wish (cat. no. 48)

43 Ellis, Deborah Looking for X

Crows Nest, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 2003, 122pp. ISBN 1-74114-127-3

Young Khyber (who thinks that her real name is unspeakably horrible) lives with her mother and autistic twin brothers in Toronto. When she grows up, she wants to be an explorer. She lives in a tough neighbourhood and already knows a lot about adventure. Her small family is threatened when social workers decide to put the twins in a group home far away from Toronto. Khyber, vulnerable, yet tough, is then forced to become a real explorer.

44 Farah, Amal (text)
Camps, Gustavo (ill.)
Al Sondok [The box]
Giza: Nahdet Misr, 2004, 20pp.
ISBN 977-14-2961-2

The world is a box full of cheerful details. Little Marlam, who lives in the dark, knows that the darkness does not stop her imagination, laughter, playing or thinking. But her brother does not know this and is afraid of the dark. What happens when the lights go out and darkness surrounds him? Included in the book is an audio CD of the text.

45 Gervay, Susanne Butterflies

Sydney, NSW: Angus & Robertson, 2001, 247pp. ISBN 0-207-19850-0

As a toddler Katherine stumbled into the red brick pit and was severely burnt. Now, after fifteen years of operations and painful skin grafts, she is ready to free herself from her mother's loving, but almost suffocating, protection. She wants to be able to be Katherine, to start making her own choices. She wants people to see her, Katherine, not just a burns victim or a hospital case. She comes to realize that basic values like commitment, love and trust are more important than the texture of her skin. Her message is: change what you're able to change, but accept what you are.

46 Stehr, Gérald (text)
Glasauer, Willi (ill.)
¿Cómo dicen mamá las jirafas?
[How do the giraffes say mama?]
Original title: Comment les girafes disent-elles maman?
Transl. by Cristina Urrutia and María Luisa Valdivia Dounce
México City: Ediciones Tecolote,
2005, 35pp. ISBN 968-7381-99-X

The teacher calls the school register in the savannah and all the animals answer, except the little giraffe who can't make a sound. The other animals are worried, so they ask the frog, the canary and finally the lion to teach their friend at least to say "Mama". But, the little giraffe shows them that there are other ways of communicating, such as close physical contact.

47 Hodge, Deborah (text)
Brassard, France (ill.)
Lily and the mixed-up letters
Toronto: Tundra Books, 2007, 32pp.
ISBN 978-0-88776-757-9

Lily is in second grade. She paints beautifully, but has trouble reading. Whenever she tries, the letters start jumping up and down and get all mixed up. Thanks to an understanding teacher Lily gets the help of a friend, and through a lot of hard work she finally overcomes her difficulties. Soft and realistic illustrations portray the feelings of fear, low self-esteem, as well as the happiness that Lily finally experiences.

48 Lears, Laurie (text) Schuett, Stacey (ill.) Nathan's wish Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman, 2005, 30pp. ISBN 0-8075-7101-6

Nathan is a boy with Cerebral Palsy who needs a wheelchair or a walker to move about. He wants to help others, but often feels like he has very little to contribute. When his neighbour, Miss Sandy, who is a Raptor Rehabilitator, rescues a screech owl with a broken wing, he understands how the big bird feels. The owl will never be able to fly again, but after a while, the bird finds another purpose in life. This inspires Nathan to reconsider his own situation and find ways to be helpful. The book includes an information sheet about CP.

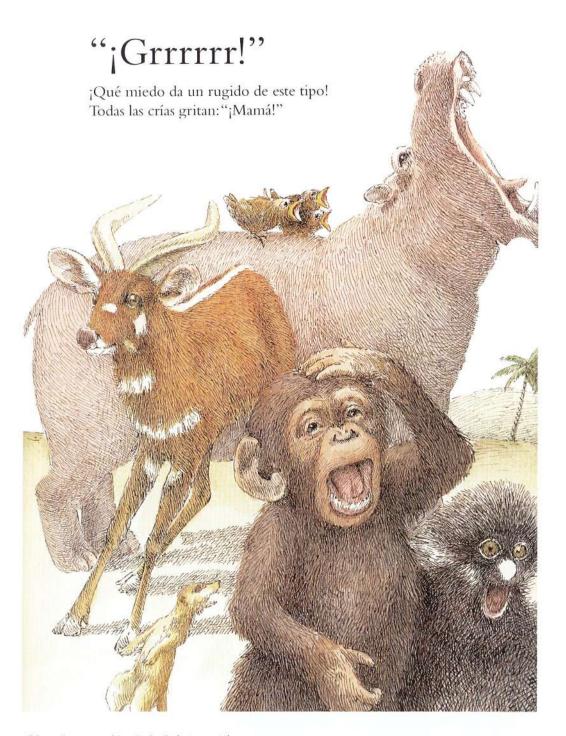
49 Lemler, Kathrin/Gemmel, Stefan (text) Kathrin spricht mit den Augen [Kathrin speaks with her eyes] Neureichenau: Edition Zweihorn, 2005, 41pp. ISBN 3-935265-21-2

Ten-year-old Kathrin tells about her life with Cerebral Palsy. She cannot talk, but has a lot to say! She has to use a letter board and points to the letters to spell what she wants to communicate. Her motto is "Not being able to laugh is worse than not being able to talk," and her greatest wish is to find a friend who will understand her.

The writer Stefan Gemmel worked for a time in Kathrin's school and they became friends and wrote this book together. Eight years later we meet Kathrin and Stefan again. She now uses a language computer fixed to her wheelchair. She is involved in ISAAC (International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication), has a lot of friends and is finishing her college education. The book is easy to read and includes many private photos, as well as some information about ISAAC.



¿Cómo dicen mamá las jirafas? (cat. no. 46)



¿Cómo dicen mamá las jirafas? (cat. no. 46)



Moudouken Andoryu no ichinichi (cat. no. 50)



Kathrin spricht mit den Augen (cat. no. 49)

50 Matsui, Susumu (text) Suzuku, Binko (ill.) Moudouken Andoryu no ichinichi [A day with Andrew: a guide dog] Tokyo: Potosu Shuppan, 2002, 27pp. ISBN 4-901979-00-0

Andrew is the guide dog of a visually-impaired writer, and this is his diary. With great humour Andrew describes his day in detail in a way that readers can easily understand. Simultaneously with the publication of this book, it was published in seven other media. More information about this can be found in the introduction on page 11 of this catalogue.

51 Mohlin, Mie/Medhus, Magne (text) Hodnefjeld, Hilde/Mohlin, Marie/Grytå, Sissel (ill.) Martes bok [Marte's book] Oslo: Omnipax, 2005, 108pp.

ISBN 82-530-2845-8

Marte is a young girl who has High Functioning Autism. Over the summer she spends a week at a cottage with her cousin, which is exciting, but also a bit frightening. We learn how Marte meets the different challenges in the unfamiliar place. Fortunately she is able to express her feelings whenever she feels under pressure and needs some quiet time alone. This Easy Reader is one of three books in a series about High Functioning Autism and Asperger Syndrome. The other books in the series are a non-fiction book for adults and a non-fiction Easy Reader for children.

Tre scalini per Serena (cat. no. 7)

52 Munsch, Robert (text) Martchenko, Michael (ill.) Zoom!

Toronto: Scholastic Canada, 2006, 28pp. (Cartwheel Books) ISBN 0-439-18774-5

Lauretta needs a new wheelchair, so her mother takes her to the wheelchair store where she can try out the different models. Lauretta wants one that goes really fast! She tries and discards several, until at last she finds the one she wants – a 92-speed dirt-bike wheelchair! When trying it out on the road, she gets a speeding ticket and will have to take the wheelchair back to the store. But after she had to rush her brother to the hospital, she is allowed to keep it. This funny story is written for a real life Lauretta.



53 Nicolas, Sylvie Frida et Kahlo

Québec: Le Loup de Gouttière, 2000, 58pp. (Les petits loups [The small wolves]) ISBN 2-89529-013-X

Frida is slowly recovering after a long period of fever. Her legs are weak, and to help pass the time her parents have given her crayons and paper. Her sketchbook becomes her diary in which she draws strange animals, fish and faces. She often writes: "I am". One day she opens an imaginary door to a strange place, full of wonderful colours, where she meets another little girl, who is called Kahlo. This voyage through a child's universe is inspired by the diary of the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo.

54 Pitzer, Marjorie W. (text and photos) I can, can you?
Bethesda, MD: Woodbine House, 2004, 16pp.
ISBN 1-890627-57-7

In this little photographic board book, babies and toddlers with Down Syndrome are pictured as they participate in a variety of activities and show us what they can do. The repetitive, simple text complements the clear pictures and helps the adult reader and the child take part in the communication.

55 Porter, Pamela The crazy man

Toronto: Groundwood Books, 2005, 214pp. ISBN 0-88899-695-0

Eleven-year-old Emaline is badly injured in a farming accident when a discer runs over her leg. Unable to deal with his guilt, her father leaves the family. To help seed and harvest their crops on the vast prairie farm, her mother hires Angus, a patient from the nearby mental hospital. Despite intolerance and even cruelty from the small-minded 1960's community that fears what it does not know, both Emaline and Angus slowly find their way to forgiveness and joy. This childhood story of hope and healing is told in spare, but powerful free verse.

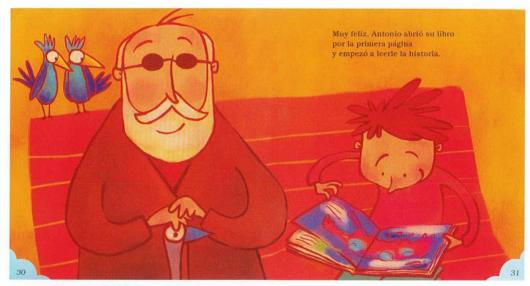
56 Ripley, Marion (text) Backhouse, Colin (ill.) Private and confidential

London: Frances Lincoln, 2003, 22pp. ISBN 0-7112-2097-2

When Laura gets her first letter from her new Australian pen friend she is very excited. After a while she learns that he is blind and that he is in hospital. How can they be pen friends now? Laura decides to learn Braille so that she can send him a get-well-soon card, and they are soon corresponding in a way that makes their letters private and confidential. This book shows children that having a disability should not be a barrier to friendship. It includes information about the Braille alphabet and a Braille sample.



Zoom! (cat. no. 52)



¿Lees un libro conmigo? (cat. no. 57)



En Casa (cat. no. 24)

57 Schimel, Lawrence (text)
Pérez, Sara Rojo (ill.)
¿Lees un libro conmigo?
[Read a book with me]
Bogotá: Panamericana Editorial,
2005, 31pp.
ISBN 958-30-1913-5

Antonio knew how to read, but he wanted to share his favourite book with someone. He asked his mother, but she was busy. "Tonight we'll read," she promised. Antonio asked the baker, the lady selling fruit, the postman, and everyone else he met on his way, but no one had any time for him. Then the blind man living across the road told him that nobody had time for him either, but perhaps Antonio might tell him a story? Happily Antonio opened his book and started to read.

58 Scrimger, Richard From Charlie's point of view Toronto: Tundra Books, 2005, 278pp. ISBN 0-88776-679-X

Charlie's dad has been accused of a bank robbery. Charlie knows he is innocent, but the police are convinced his dad is the Stocking Bandit. Charlie's point of view depends mainly on hearing, touch, smell and imagination. Together with his friends, Charlie decides to solve the mystery, which includes hiding in a cemetery and crawling into an old vault.

59 Seon, An-na (text) Goh, Gwang-sam (ill.) Sam-geori Jeom-bang (The Three Corners Shop) Gyeonggi-do: Nurimbo Publishing, 2005, 111pp.

Bu-tteul was born with a disability: his legs did not develop normally, forcing him walk on his hands and knees. As he got older and more aware of his disability, his mother gave him confidence and cheered him up by telling him that the people of the world are all different from one another. Although his academic skills were never very good he had an aptitude for practical ones, so he opened a repair shop to support his mother. After his mother died, Bu-tteul dedicated his life to helping others. The outstanding point of the story is that it is not just a story about overcoming a disability. Bu-tteul thinks his disability is just one of his many individualities, and lives and works like a "normal" person.

60 Song, Jin-heon (text and ill.) Ppibi eyagi [The story of Ppibi] Gyeonggi-do: Changbi Publishers, 2003, 40pp. ISBN 89-364-5402-1

This picture book reflects the childhood memories of the author. Ppibi is an autistic boy shunned by the other children. The author, however, befriends him and they joyously explore the forest - the neighbourhood playground - together. But after entering primary school, the narrator begins to avoid Ppibi: something that still haunts him as an adult. The soft pencil drawings enhance the book's charm.

61 Uhlberg, Myron (text) Bootman, Colin (ill.) Dad, Jackie and me

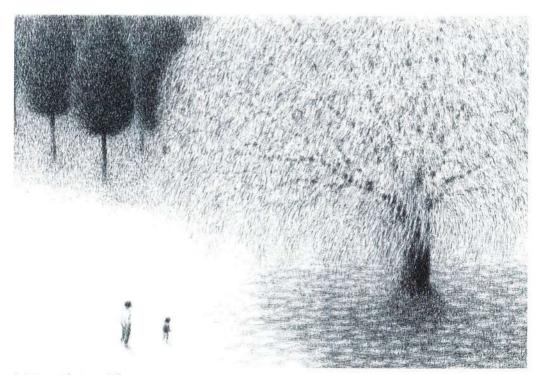
Atlanta, GA: Peachtree Publishers, 2005, 30pp. ISBN 1-56145-329-3

This work of historical fiction draws upon events that the author experienced as a child. In 1947, in Brooklyn, New York, he learns about discrimination and intolerance, as he and his deaf father share their enthusiasm over baseball and the Dodgers' first baseman, Jackie Robinson - the first black man ever to play major league baseball.

62 Vercoe, Elizabeth Keep your hair on!

Fitzroy, Victoria: black dog books, 2003, 134pp. ISBN 1-876372-18-4

Jess is sixteen, and has just had her first chemotherapy treatment for lymphatic cancer. It is important to her that her boyfriend Dylan must not know that she is ill. She thinks that he'll treat her differently and feel sorry for her, but she wants him to treat her as though nothing is wrong. She even pretends that she has shaved her hair off on purpose when it starts falling out. The story is written from Jess' point of view and is both sad and funny.



Ppibi eyagi (cat. no. 57)

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28 Kids Can Press Ltd.

29 Birch Avenue, Toronto, ON, Canada M4V 1E2 webmaster@kidscan.com, www.kidscanpress.com

53 Le Loup de Gouttière

347, rue Saint-Paul, Québec. Canada G1K 3X1 loupgout@videotron.ca www.silq.org/eloupgouttiere.html

12 Lemniscaat

Postbus 4066, NL-3006 AB Rotterdam, The Netherlands. info@lemniscaat.nl, www.lemniscaat.nl

9 Lohipato Special Education School Koskitie 39, FI-90500, Oulu, Finland www.lohipato.oulu.net

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40 Second Story Press

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