

3-6 years. Supporting a child with a disfigurement: a teacher's guide

Guide 11. Guide to learning resources

Children's Early Years experiences have a long-term influence on their attitudes and expectations. They are so interested in the world about them that it is an ideal time to introduce all kinds of examples of difference.

1 CHOOSING RESOURCES

Look at the whole range of resources that you have in your Early Years setting.

- Can the children recognise something of themselves in the pictures and stories they encounter when they are with you?
- What sort of message do the images and stories convey?
- Do your resources reflect the life experiences of the children you work with?
- Do you have pictures and books that reflect their homes and their surroundings?
- Do your toys, your books and IT resources reflect the make up of their family groups, their familiar foods, the clothes they wear and the things they do?

When children find aspects of their own lives in pictures and stories, they can more readily engage with similar resources featuring different children leading different lives.

Pictures and resources around your school need to show and celebrate all kinds of people in all kinds of different situations – different in sizes, ages, physical features, abilities and disabilities, body shapes, cultures and ethnic origins, etc.

Specialist suppliers of multi-cultural and non-sexist books and other resources covering illnesses and disabilities, hospital stories, feelings and experiences such as bullying, include –

www.letterboxlibrary.com
www.healthybooks.org
www.awhitmanco.com
www.maginationpress.com
www.peachtree-online.com
www.jasonandnordic.com

2 SOME REALLY GOOD BOOKS

Rhino's Horns
Bloomsbury

Michael Terry
ISBN 0747550514

The gnus and gazelles have beautiful horns but Rhino's are short and stubby. The other animals show Rhino how to accept and appreciate himself just as he is.

You are very special

Lion

We are all special and different – black, white, noisy, quiet... We can say sorry when we do something bad and we can show other people that they are special too. Inside the back cover is a mirror and on the facing page the message: *Here is a very special person This special person is you.*

Su Box and Susie Poole

ISBN 0745933483

The Something Else

Puffin

A little creature feels different and left out in a school full of unusual looking creatures. A tale of befriending and finding ways to fit in when feeling and looking different.

Katherine Cave and Chris Riddell

ISBN 0140549072

It's OK to be Different

Megan Tingley Books (USA)

Full of positive affirmations about being different. Includes the more commonplace like glasses and pimples as well as some funny ones like wearing fish in your hair!

Todd Parr

ISBN 0316155624

Showtime

Changing Faces

When it's her turn to show her class-mates something interesting, Emma shows her burn scars and talks about how her skin was mended.

Alex Clarke

ISBN 1900928280

Are we there yet?

Tamarind

(available from the Spinal Injuries Association 76 St. James's Lane, London N10 3DF)
Dad takes Amy and Max out to a leisure park for the day. A positive story with a competent, caring and disabled parent.

Verna Allette Wilkins

ISBN 187051629X

Bein' with you this way

Lee & Low Books

Exuberant verse invites readers of all ages to join in a celebration of children's diversity.

W. Nikola-Lisa

ISBN 1880000059

All kinds of people

Tango Books

A lift a flap book that introduces the more common place differences. Shows how some people are tall while others are short and introduces many other differences like glasses, pimples, freckles, different skin colours and hair colours in a fun way.
(Also in this series include **All kinds of bodies** and **All kinds of feelings.**)

Emma Damon

ISBN 1-85707-067-4

Susan Laughs

Red Fox

This book shows the likes (e.g. painting and horse riding) and dislikes (e.g. the dark) of a little girl called Susan. Every child will have something in common with Susan before discovering, right at the end, that Susan is in a wheelchair.

Jeanne Willis

ISBN 0099407566