

The SENCO and special schools newsletter from Norfolk School Library Service

Sesame Street and Autism

At the end of last year, the Sesame Street Workshop introduced a new muppet as part of their 'Sesame Street and Autism: See Amazing in all Children' initiative.

Julia is on the autistic spectrum and her arrival aims to educate children and adults on how to interact with those on the spectrum.

The initiative itself was developed by consulting parents, people with autism and those working directly with both groups. A website of resources including stories and videos is available at: <http://autism.sesamestreet.org>



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Win free books for your disadvantaged children!

The Siobhan Dowd Trust are running a competition for schools to win up to £1000 for disadvantaged young people to choose books at a local independent bookseller. This is a brilliant idea: in a single competition it both encourages young readers and supports indie booksellers.

Entry is simple and the closing date for our region is Sept 30. They especially want to know how your school engages disadvantaged young readers.

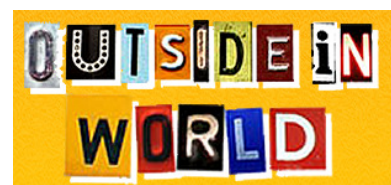
For more details, visit <http://www.siobhandowdtrust.com/schools-campaign/>

Outside In World

Outside In World is the UK organisation (set up in 2007) dedicated to promoting and exploring children's literature from around the world, particularly books in translation.

Between 2014 and 2015 research was undertaken to seek out inclusive books from around the world which were either accessible to all children including disabled ones, or which featured characters with some kind of physical or cognitive disability. It was felt that there is a serious lack of good material available. Through the project, called Reading the Way, over 30 books were translated into English or, in the case of sensory titles, made into mock-ups, and tested with focus groups.

They were met with enthusiasm and so it is hoped some at least will be published in this country and made widely available. For more information about the research, and the books selected, email info@OutsideinWorld.org.uk



Books for SEN — come and see what we have!

Here at SLS we have a great range of books and resources for your special needs children, so when you request a project box don't forget to tell us if a child has particular needs - we can often include something special. We also supply whole boxes of special needs resources for Special Schools.

We supply tactile and hi-lo books, large and giant print, braille, story sacks and story boxes, as well as poster packs. If you are stuck for ideas or feel out of touch with new publications you are welcome to come to our base at County Hall to browse and choose your own resources - there is always someone on hand to guide you. Just ring first to check we are free.



Touch and Feel Playbook by Eric Carle

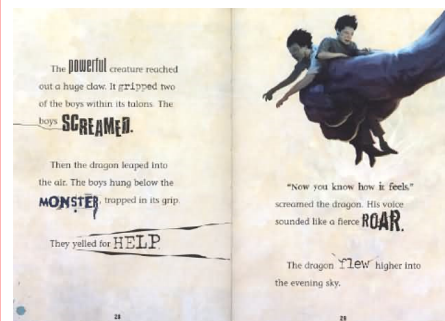
This attractive board book uses Eric Carle's delightful illustrations to illustrate first concepts: Animal sounds, numbers, shapes and colours and its grand reveal is of course his glittery, colourful butterfly. There are varied tactile elements well integrated throughout - well designed to hold young readers interest.

(Picture Puffin, £8.99 hardback, 9780241959565)

Hi-Lo books

There are many good examples of hi-lo books around these days – many more than those included in schemes, so you may not know about **Michael Dahl** (no relation to Roald) who has published several series for those with a reading age of 6/7+ and interesting for those up to upper KS2-Y9.

The new “**Igor's Lab of Fear**” series has a younger reading age but is still horror.



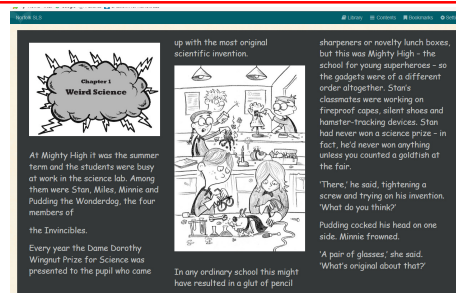
The older “**Dragonblood**” series is laid out in very short chapters but still manages to convey the narrative of the story in an atmospheric and engaging way. 32 pages of great dragon fantasy for boys with reading ages 7+ in y5-9 – and there are even discussion questions and writing prompts in both series.

If you're interested in borrowing some of these titles for one of your pupils, call our office and we'll be happy to arrange this.

Our eBook lending platform

One of the benefits of using our eBook lending platform is that when reading on a device, you can adjust the background colour, word spacing, font and size to suit each individual's reading requirements.

If you would like to find out more about a subscription to our eBook platform, including a term's free trial, please contact the SLS office.



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