Read-Aloud Picture Books: Neurodiversity

The author Alice Walker said, "Storytelling is how we survive, when there's no feed, the story feeds something, it feeds the spirit, the imagination. I can't imagine life without stories, stories from my parents, my culture. Stories from other people's parents, their culture. That's how we learn from each other, it's the best way. That's why literature is so important, it connects us heart to heart."

There are so many books that allow us to understand how others, and ourselves, are special in their own way! If you like having books read aloud to you with pictures, check out these videos:

"Benny Doesn't Like To Be Hugged" is told from the point of view of a friend of Benny, a boy who has autism. It was written by Zetta Elliott, illustrated by Purple Wong, and was read aloud in this video by Yusuf, a kid.

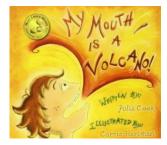
"<u>Tacky the Penguin</u>", written by Helen Lester and illustrated by Lynn Munsinger, celebrates thinking and acting differently.



"When My Worries Get Too Big! A Relaxation Book for Children Who Live With Anxiety", written and illustrated by Kari Dunn Buron, is filled with opportunities to participate in developing our own self-calming strategies.

"<u>The Alphabet War: A Story About Dyslexia</u>" by Diane Burton Robb and beautifully illustrated by Gail Piazza, is told from the point of view of Adam, who struggles with reading.

"My Brother Charlie" by Holly Robinson Peete and Ryan Elizabeth Peete and illustrated by Shane Evans is a story about Charlie, a child with autism, told from his sister's point of view.



"My Mouth is a Volcano" by Julia Cook, illustrated by Carrie Hartman, introduces us to Louis who finds that frequently, words erupt and explode out of his mouth. It also includes some strategies for when we can't control our mouths!

