

# The Teen Times

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Issue No. 10 | April 1, 2023

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In the April issue of *The Teen Times*, the RPL Youth Services Team focuses on disability awareness, bringing you book, film, & television recommendations, a spotlight on our teen programming, and some fun activities.

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## Programming Spotlight

April's programming spotlight is our **TWEEN/TEEN TRIVIA NIGHT**.

Join us during April vacation week to participate in our trivia night! Answer some questions & enjoy free pizza as you play along.

The top three teams at the end of the night will win prizes!

**Registration is required for this event.** You can register for using the QR code below!

Trivia Night is on Thursday, **April 20th** at **5:00 PM!**

The theme for this trivia night is **POP CULTURE: PAST & PRESENT**



Scan this to sign up!



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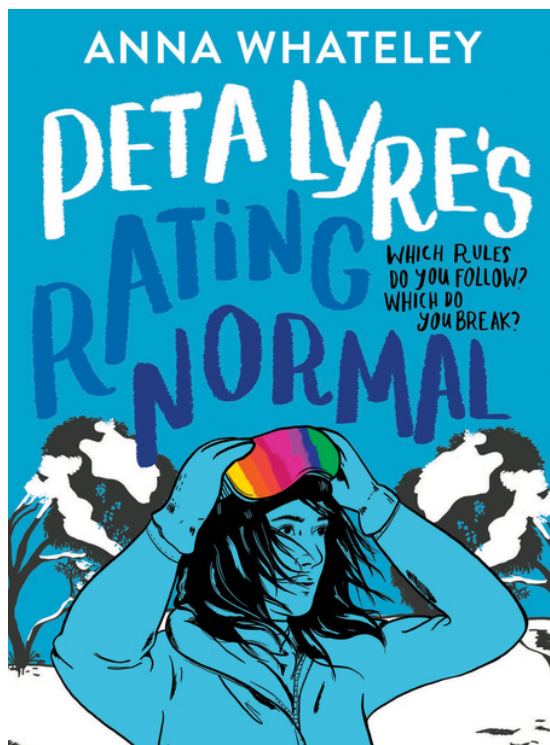
# Book Recommendations: Disability Rep

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## Peta Lyre's Rating Normal by Anna Whateley

Peta Lyre is far from typical. The neurotypical world she lives in isn't designed for the way her mind works, but when she follows her therapist's rules for "normal" behavior, she can almost fit in without attracting attention. When a new girl, Sam, starts at school, Peta's carefully structured routines start to crack. But on the school ski trip, with romance blooming and a newfound confidence, she starts to wonder if maybe she can have a life more like everyone else's. When things fall apart, Peta must decide whether all the old rules still matter. Does she want a life less ordinary, or should she keep her rating normal?

**Disability:** ADHD & Autism



## Things the Eye Can't See by Penny Joelson

Libby is visually impaired but that doesn't stop her being a keen photographer. She loves going out walking with her guide dog, Samson, and taking photos, but her family worries about her—and Libby wishes she could be more independent. The day that a boy gives her a secret note to deliver changes everything. Because soon after, the boy goes missing, and no one—except Libby and her new friend Kyle—thinks there is anything to worry about.

**Disability:** Blindness



## You, Me, and Our Heartstrings by Melissa See

Noah, a cello prodigy from a long line of musicians, wants to stick to tradition. Daisy, a fiercely independent disabled violinist, is used to fighting for what she wants and likes to take risks. But the two surprise each other when they play. They fall perfectly in tune.

After their performance goes viral, the rest of the country falls for them just as surely as they're falling for each other. But viral fame isn't all it's cracked up to be. No one seems to care about their talent or their music at all. People have rewritten their love story into one where Daisy is an inspiration for overcoming her cerebral palsy and Noah is a saint for seeing past it.

**Disability:** Cerebral Palsy & Anxiety Disorder

## One for All by Lillie Lainoff

Tania de Batz is most herself with a sword in her hand. Everyone thinks her near-constant dizziness makes her weak, nothing but "a sick girl." But Tania wants to be strong, independent, a fencer like her father—a former Musketeer and her greatest champion. Then Papa is brutally, mysteriously murdered. His dying wish? For Tania to attend finishing school. But L'Académie des Mariées, Tania realizes, is no finishing school. It's a secret training ground for new Musketeers: women who are socialites on the surface, but strap daggers under their skirts, seduce men into giving up dangerous secrets, and protect France from downfall.

**Disability:** Chronic Illness

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# Programming Schedule & Highlights

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## Programming Schedule

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
APR 12	4:00 - 5:00 PM	WRITING CLUB
APR 18	1:00 - 2:30 PM	ICE CREAM SOCIAL
APR 19	1:30 - 2:30 PM	SPRING SNOW GLOBES
APR 20	5:00 - 6:15 PM	TRIVIA NIGHT

## Recommended Video Games:



**Overcooked! | Multiple platforms, chaotic cooking fun**



**Hades | Multiple platforms, mythology, queer rep, choose your own adventure**



## What Did We Read in March?

In the month of March, Sarah read many things including some new middle-grade graphic novels, but the best book of YA fiction they read last month was **"She is a Haunting" by Trang Thanh Tran.**

This book centers on a young girl who must contend with a house that will not rest until it destroys them. Jade must fight to keep her family together, as she roots out the house's rot. This book speaks to the evils of white colonialism & generational trauma, all while delivering beautifully haunting prose.

## Teen LitCrate Boxes

If you're between the ages of 11 and 18 and you have trouble figuring out what to read next, the Youth Services Department has a solution for you!

The YA LitCrate is a mystery box filled with books and goodies for you to enjoy! All you have to do is fill out a form to let us know what you enjoy reading, and we'll give you a call when it's ready to pick up. The books and box must be returned, but the gifts inside are yours to keep!

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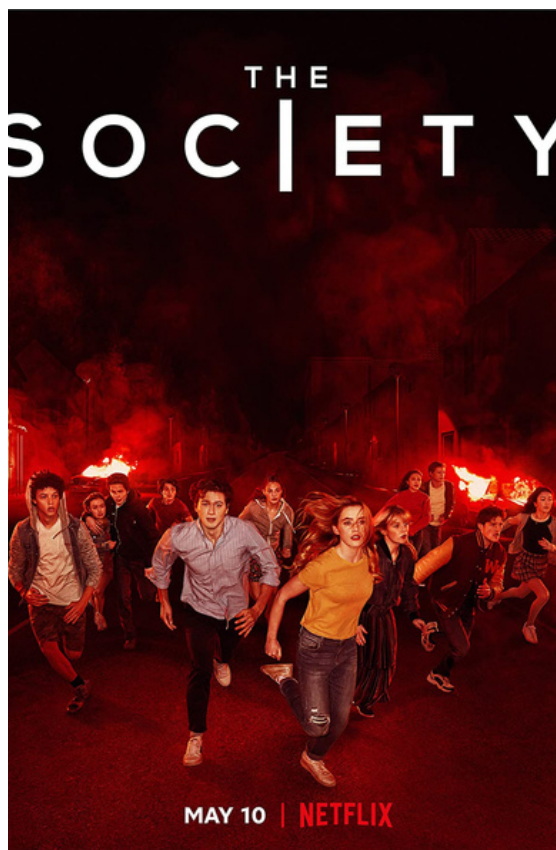
# Film/TV Recs: Featuring Disabled Characters

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## The Society

An eerie, supernatural Young Adult series – when everyone else mysteriously vanishes from their wealthy town, the teen residents of West Ham must forge their own society to survive. The show features a deaf character, Sam who is played by deaf actor, Sean Berdy.

**Disability:** Hearing Impaired

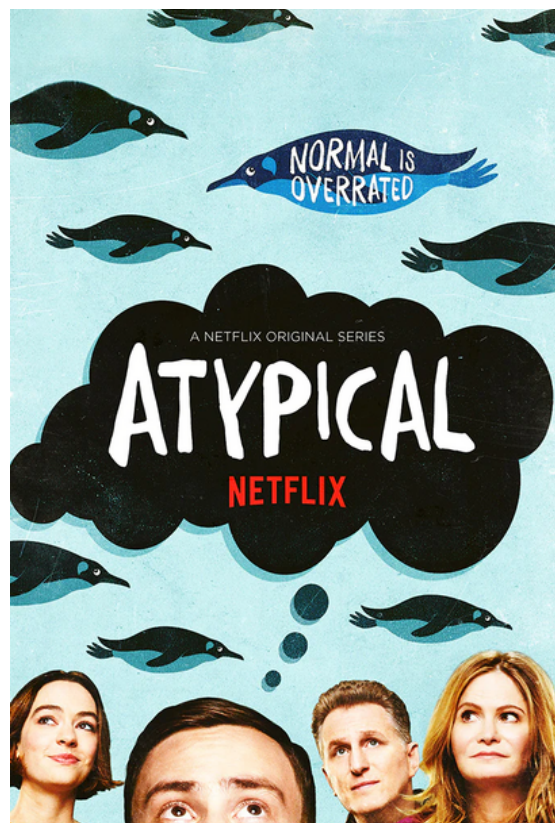


Sarah's Rating: ★★★★★/5

## Never Have I Ever

Lily D Moore plays sassy, confident teen Rebecca, sister of lead character Paxton. As an aspiring fashion designer, Rebecca is a refreshing portrayal of an average outspoken disabled teenager with big plans for her future success. By throwing off cliched infantilizing notions of disability, Rebecca shows it's possible for teens with disabilities to speak their mind, be themselves, and take charge of their lives.

**Disability:** Down Syndrome  
Sarah's Rating: ★★★★★/5



## Atypical

This heartfelt comedy follows Sam, a teenager on the autism spectrum, who has decided he is ready for romance. In order to start dating -- and hopefully find love -- Sam will need to be more independent, which also sends his mother (Jennifer Jason Leigh) on her own life-changing path.

**Disability:** Autism  
Sarah's Rating: ★★★/5

## The Fundamentals of Caring

This Netflix Original film that tells the story of Ben, who encounters a personal tragedy and becomes a carer for 18-year-old Trevor, who has Duchenne muscular dystrophy. The two of them embark on a road trip together across America, in which their perspectives on life are changed and they begin to understand the importance of hope and friendship.

**Disability:** Muscular Dystrophy  
Sarah's Rating: ★★★★★/5

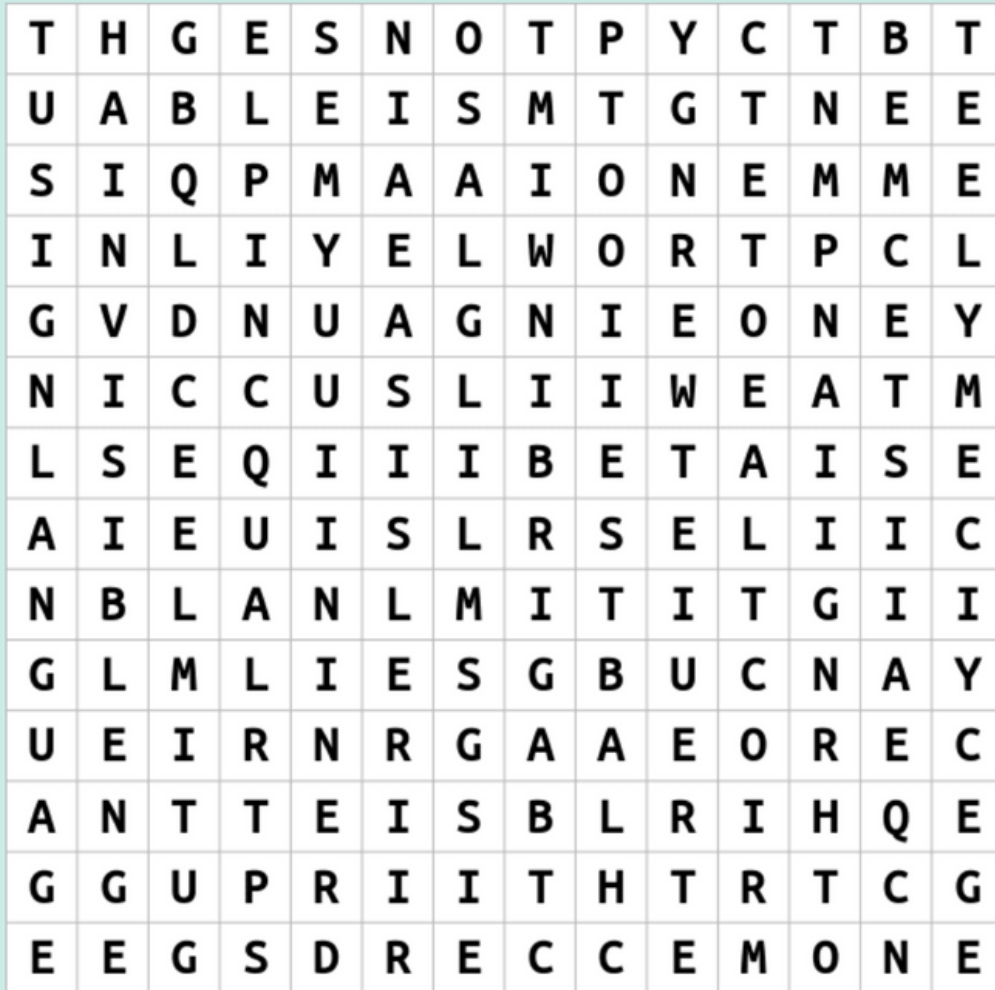
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# Activities Corner

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## DISABILITY AWARENESS



### Word Bank:

EMPOWERMENT	DISABILITY	EQUALITY
ABLEISM	SIGN LANGUAGE	AUTISM
CHRONIC	PERSISTENCE	INVISIBLE

Bring back a completed word search for a sticker!

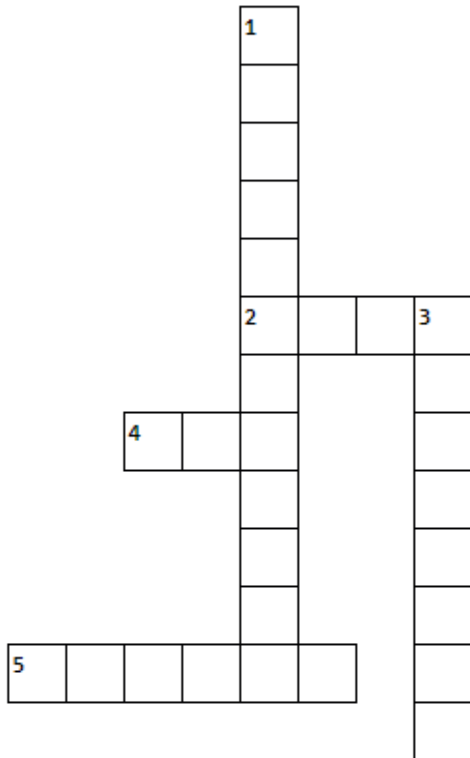
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# Activities Corner, cont.

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## Disability Awareness Crossword Puzzle



### Across

2. Acronym for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

4. A person with a vision impairment might have this type of animal to lead them around

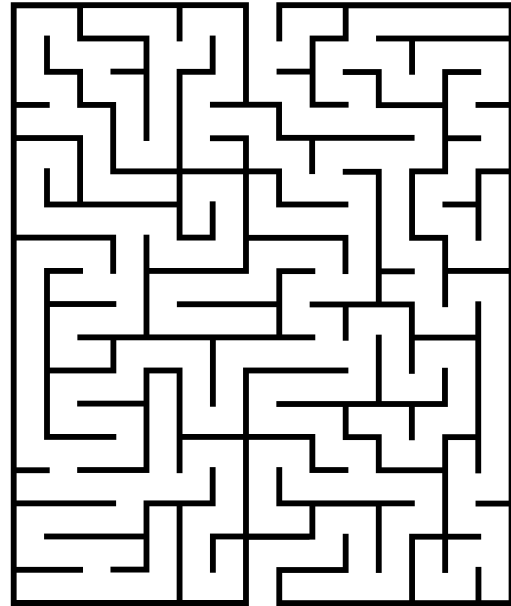
5. Helen \_\_\_\_\_ was born blind, deaf, & mute.

### Down

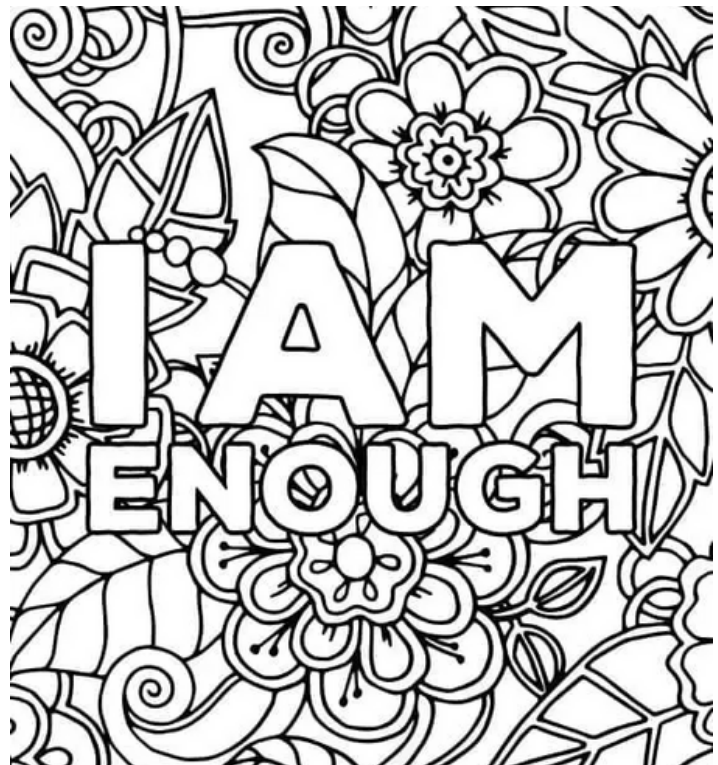
2. Deaf or hearing impaired people may utilize this as their form of communication (2 words)

3. This learning disability causes difficulty reading as the letters often appear swapped

## Solve Me!



## Color Me!



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