

I am ten years old, my name is Elijah Dumitrescu and I am dyslexic. I live with my seven year old sister and my Mom and Dad. I am the only one with learning disabilities in my family. I go to the Schenck School, a school for dyslexics, I have been going there for two years.

I am making these recommendations because I think other kids would like these books.

**Hank Zipzer Books**

**<http://www.hankzipzer.com/books.html>**

This is a series about a kid that is ADHD. The books are really funny and never get boring. The guy who wrote the books, Henry Winkler, is dyslexic. In the books, Hank has a little sister who owns a pet iguana. Hank's dog is called Cheerio because he runs in circles and chases his tail, then he looks like a cheerio. Hank's friends are awesome and they help him out of a lot of trouble. No one at school understands being ADHD except the music teacher Mr. Rock.

When Hank Zipzer studies things go wrong. He spends too much time arranging his pencils and trying to get out of his homework. The descriptions of what happens to Hank Zipzer's brain when he is in school or doing homework are good, accurate and funny.

This is a series of books and they are easy to read and you don't get bored. The tapes of the books are pretty good too if you don't want to read.

**Percy Jackson series**

**<http://www.rickriordan.com/children.htm>**

I have read all three Percy Jackson books and I am dying to read the 4th when it comes out. Even though Percy has a lot of cool adventures, being LD is hard. He is lucky to have good friends, even if one of them is half barn animal. I want to go to Camp Half Blood (read the book to find out what it is.) You should read all three books by Rick Riordan, *The Lightning Thief*, *The Sea of Monsters* and *Curse of the Titans*. I liked reading these books where the hero was dyslexic and ADHD because it proves that even cool and important people have learning disabilities.

By Elijah Dumitrescu 9/8/07

*Percy Jackson series* features a twelve-year-old dyslexic boy who discovers he is the modern-day son of a Greek god. The novels draw on Riordan's experience teaching Greek mythology and his interaction with students who have learning differences. *The Lightning Thief* was a New York Times Notable Book for 2005 and has been optioned for feature film to Twentieth Century Fox. *The Sea of Monsters* was a Child Magazine Best Book for Children for 2006 and a Publishers Weekly and BookSense national bestseller. The most recent title is *The Titan's Curse*, a #1 New York Times children's series bestseller *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan

What follows are some other sources for books. Although I have no recommendations from Elijah on them, he told me to put in some web sites so that people would have an easy time finding other fiction books that involve kids with LD. I thought it was an excellent idea so here are a few sites and some of the books I found after searching around the web a little.

Kathleen Dumitrescu Aka Elijah's Mom

The Pima County Public Library's Kid Zone has a list of both fiction and non-fiction books on special needs <http://www.tppl.org/kidsweb/books/specialneeds.cfm#add>

These books are from the Kid Zone list:

**Touretts Syndrome (fiction)**

Byalick, Marcia. *Quit it* (2002)

A 6th grader diagnosed with a neurological disorder that causes uncontrollable tics must cope with the embarrassment and strain of various reactions from family, friends, and strangers.

**ADHD (Fiction)**

Winkler, Henry. *Day of the Iguana* (2003)

A boy with LD struggles in school and his sister's iguana makes things worse.

Little, Jean. *Birdie for now* (2002) Dickon hopes to make friends in his new home and school and have a dog.

**Children's Books About the Physically Challenged grades 4-6 From the Greene County Public Library**

[http://www.gcpl.lib.oh.us/view\\_child\\_biblios.asp?CID=3](http://www.gcpl.lib.oh.us/view_child_biblios.asp?CID=3)

(The following are only the books on ADHD; there were many more on a variety of topics including all sorts of LD issues)

*Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* by Gantos, Jack

J Fiction -- ADD and ADHD

*Zipper, the Kid with ADHD* by Janover, Caroline

J Fiction -- ADD and ADHD

**Book list from <http://www.kidsource.com/NICHCY/literature.html>**

**Attention Deficit Disorder**

Gordon, M. (1991). *Jumpin' Johnny get back to work! A child's guide to ADHD/hyperactivity*. DeWitt, NY: GSI. (Available on videotape as well) (Grades 1-6)

Gordon, M. (1992). *My brother's a world class pain: A sibling's guide to ADHD/hyperactivity*. DeWitt, NY: GSI. (Grades 1-8)

Shapiro, L.E., & Parrotte, T. (111.). (1993). *Sometimes I drive my mom crazy, but I know she's crazy about me: A self-esteem book for overactive and impulsive children*. King of Prussia, PA: Center for Applied Psychology. (Grades K-6, 80 pages)

**Learning Disabilities**

Betancourt, J. (1993). *My name is brain - Brian*. New York: Scholastic. (Ages 9-14)

Dunn, Kathryn Boesel, & Dunn, Allison Boesel. (1993). *Trouble with school: A family story about learning disabilities*. Rockville, MD: Woodbine House. (Ages 5-12, Grades]-5)

- Gehret, Jeanne. (1992). *Learning and the don't-give-up-kid* (2nd ed.) Fairport, NY: Verbal images Press. (Ages 6-10)
- Levinson, H.N., & Sanders, A. (1991). *The upside down kids: Helping dyslexic children understand themselves and their disorder*. New York: M. Evans. (JF)
- Philbrick, W.R. (1993). *Freak the mighty*. New York: Scholastic. (About two eighth graders, one who has learning disabilities and one who has a birth defect)? (YA)

**A list of Books from a children's librarian in New York with the Middletown Thrall Library in New York. Note that this list has the library call numbers rather than the author's name listed. You should still be able to get all of these with a title search.**

<http://www.thrall.org/dydm.htm>

**Fiction Titles** (Call numbers in parentheses)

Active Andy: An Elementary School Child's Guide to Understanding ADHD (DDM J Ber)

Jumpin' Johnny Get Back to Work: A Child's Guide to ADHD/Hyperactivity (DDM J Gor)

Slam Dunk: A Young Boy's Struggle with Attention Deficit (DDM J Par)

**Picture Book Titles** (Call numbers in parentheses)

*Feeling Good!:* A Self Esteem Activity Book (DDM JP Bou)

*Otto-Learns About His Medicine:* A Story About Medication for Hyperactive Children (DDM JP Gal)

*Lovables in the Kingdom of Self-Esteem* (DDM JP Loo)

*Shelly, the Hyperactive Turtle* (DDM JP Mos)