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New Nonfiction

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Sea Otter Rescue by Suzi Eszterhas

Learn about the amazing and difficult job of rescuing sea otters and see some adorable pictures of baby sea otters at the same time. Get a peek inside the secret wildlife hospital at the Alaska SeaLife Center. Baby sea otters look small, but an adult sea otter is the same size as a German Shepard and about 10 times more work to take care of! While this book would definitely help with a report on a marine mammal it is also interesting to read for fun - did I mention adorable sea otter babies?

Sniffer & Tinni: A True Tale of Amazing Animal Friendship by Berit Helberg

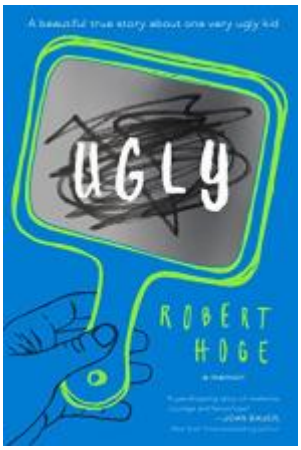
Reading Level: Ages 3 - 8

Sniffer the fox and Tinni the German shepherd meet in a meadow one day and a life-long friendship ensues. Illustrated by photos of the two animals at play, this book will entrance all animal lovers.

Check availability of this book

More books by Berit Helberg

More books illustrated by Torgeir Berge



Ugly: a memoir by Robert Hoge

Reading Level: Grades 4-7

This memoir traces the life of Robert Hoge from the time he was born in 1972 until he turned 14. Robert was born with enormous tumor in the middle of his face. His eyes were on either side of

his face and he had only holes for a nose. Besides the mass on his face, his legs were twisted and stunted. Mary, Robert?s mother was horrified. She thought the baby looked like a monster. She didn?t want to take him home. Her doctor told her to put the baby away in an institution. Her husband, Vince, told her that it was up to her. For over a month the baby stayed at the hospital. Then Mary decided to ask their other kids.Vince and Mary told them about their baby brother; how he looked, his legs and the fact that he might also be mentally challenged. Then Mary pointed to each of her children and asked, ?Should we bring Robert home?? All four voted yes. Robert had many operations. The tumor was removed. The unusable parts of his legs were amputated. He got prosthetics and learned to walk.**]** He went to school and made some friends. Not everyone was nice. He learned to do things his way and to be his own person in a world that thinks he is very, very ugly.

Check the availability of this book.

Another interesting biographies and memiors about living with a disability are:

Small Steps: the year I got polio by Peg Kehret

Med Head : my knock-down, drag-out, drugged-up battle with my brain by James Patterson and

Temple Grandin : how the girl who loved cows embraced autism and changed the world by Sy Montgomery

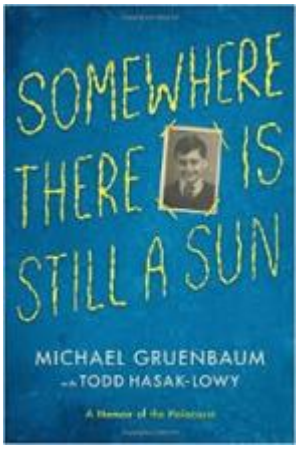
Engrossing stories about kids living with a disability are:

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Out of my Mind by Sharon Draper

Counting By 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan and

The Thing About Georgie by Lisa Graff



Somewhere There is Still a Sun: A Memoir of the Holocaust by Michael Gruenbaum, Todd Hasak-Lowy

Reading Level: Grades 4 - 8

This book was 70 years in the making. It is the story of Michael Gruenbaum and his family, Jews who lived in Prague in 1939 when the Nazis marched in. Written by gifted writer, Todd Hasak-Lowry, it chronicles life for 10- year-old Michael under the Nazis and the family's relocation to Terezin. Told in the first person by a young Michael, it speaks volumes about courage, determination, and humanity.

Check availability of this book

Other books by Todd Hasak-Lowy

Becoming Maria: Love and Chaos in the South Bronx by Sonia Manzano

Reading Level: Grades 8 and older

Sonia Manzano, otherwise known as Maria on Sesame Street, tells the story of her childhood in the Bronx. Detailing everything from her mysteriously appearing older sister, through her father's drunken rages, to her first roll on Broadway, Sonia's story is not for younger, or more sensitive readers.

Check availability of this book

More books by Sonia Manzano

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