

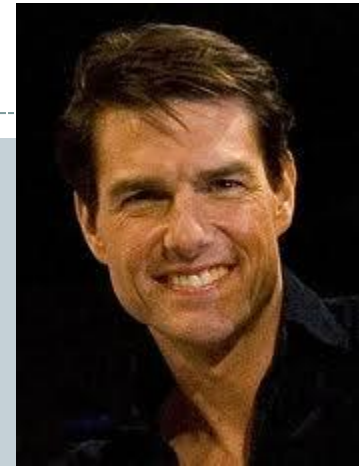
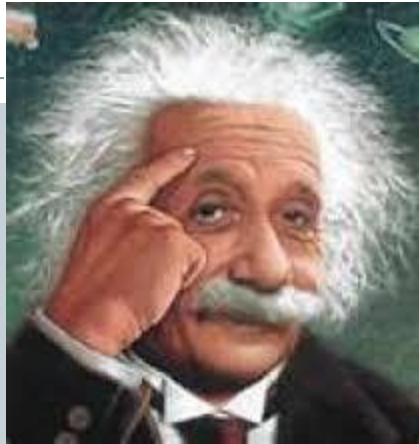
But they don't look like they  
have a disability...

Library Services to people in the US with  
dyslexia



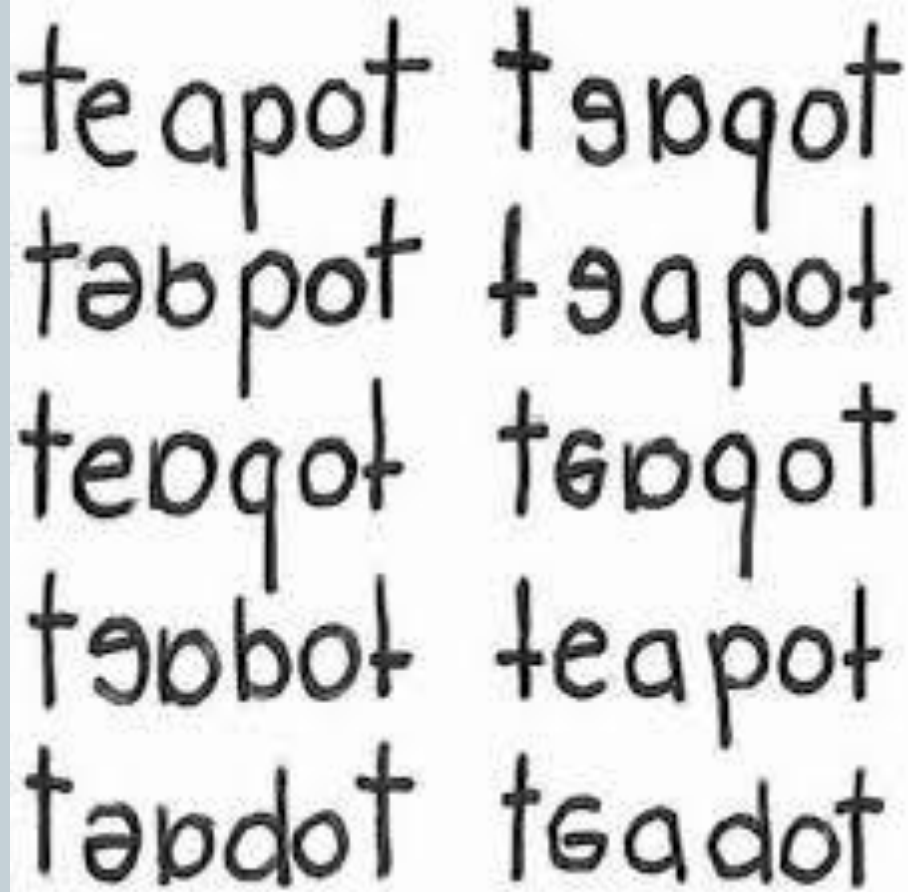
NANCY BOLT  
NANCY BOLT & ASSOCIATES  
AUGUST, 2014

# What do these people have in common?



# Today we will discuss

- **Issues**
- National programs in the **United States**
- Examples of local libraries that **intentionally** serve people with dyslexia



teapot teapot  
teapot teapot  
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# Four issues in serving people with dyslexia

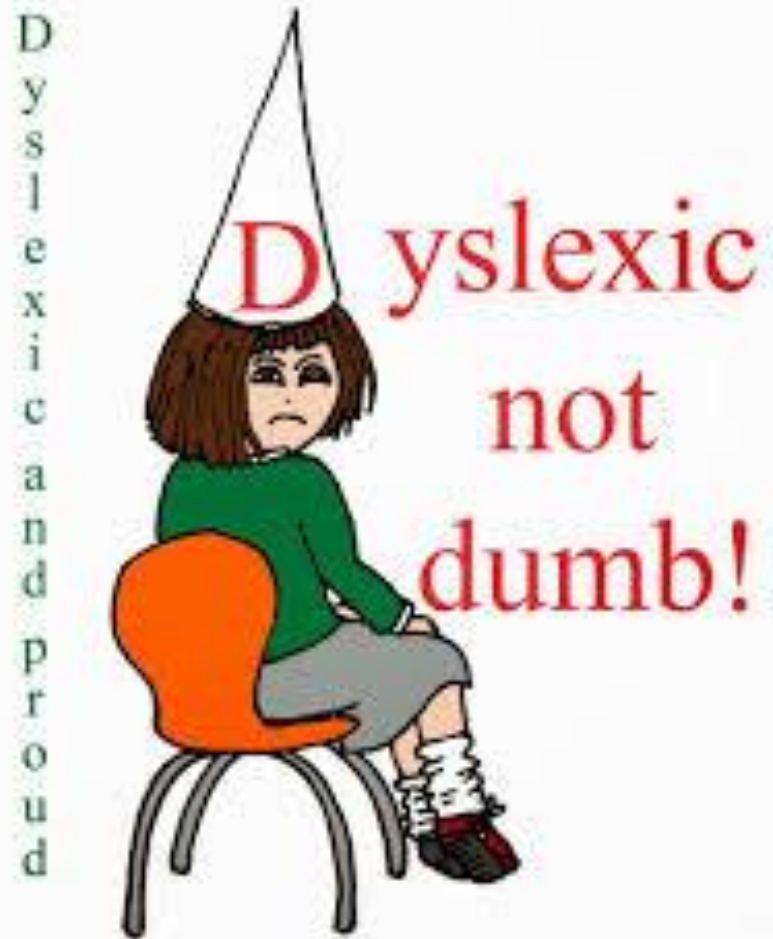
- **Identifying people with dyslexia**
  - Hidden disability
  - 15 to 20% of population
  - Only 5% receive services
- **Passive vs active library services**
  - Passive - you can use what we have already
  - Active - we choose to develop services to meet your needs



# Issues



- **Access to resources**
  - Diagnosis/copyright
  - Must be medical doctor
  - Materials are segregated
  - Limits materials available
- **Publicity**
  - Where are they?
  - Overcoming a stigma
  - Design







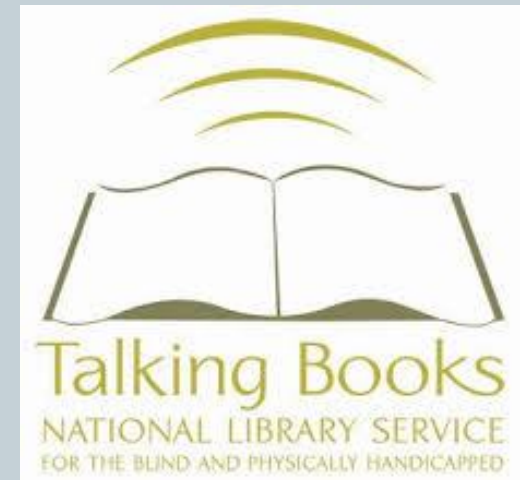
# National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped



- **Mission**

- *Through a national network of cooperating libraries, NLS administers a free library program of braille and audio materials circulated to eligible borrowers in the United States by postage-free mail.*

- **US Government/the Library of Congress**
- **Records/braille books and magazines**
- **Digital players with navigation options**
- **Qualified by “competent authority”**
- **Searchable database**



# NLS



- **Cooperates with 50 states**
  - Staff and faculties
  - Design own service
- **Total dyslexia uses nationally?**
  - Does not track
  - 6% registered with “reading disability”





# Learning Ally



- Since 1947 as Recording for the Blind
- Membership organization
- Works with students in 10,000 institutions
- Mainly curriculum material (65%)
- Gets referrals from NLS
- Uses the DAISY format





- **Services and advice to caregivers**
- **Must be diagnosed by medical doctor**
- **Do not usually work with libraries directly**  
*We hear anecdotes (from librarians) but don't typically reach out to librarians because, while they are extremely supportive, cannot make the diagnosis or share the necessary paperwork that authorizes a user to access the catalog. We often end up with librarians but our conversations begin with a reading specialist, assistive technology expert, instructor of the vision impaired or special educator.*

# BOOKSHARE



- “the world's largest online library of accessible reading materials for people with print disabilities.”
- Organization/ individual members
- Offers multitude of resources
- Broader authorizing officials
- Students served free; public libraries pay fee
- One of few services available to public libraries
- Free software allows navigation options



# Library Examples



- Brooklyn Public Library *The Child's Place for Children (and Teens) with Special Needs*
- Woodlynde School, Strafford, Pennsylvania
- New Jersey State Library Talking Book and Braille Center



# Brooklyn Public Library

## A Child's Place For Children (And Teens)



- Designed to “meet the needs of children with disabilities”

**the child's place**   
for children with special needs

- **Mission**
  - Access to resources to develop reading skills
  - Build self-esteem and confidence.



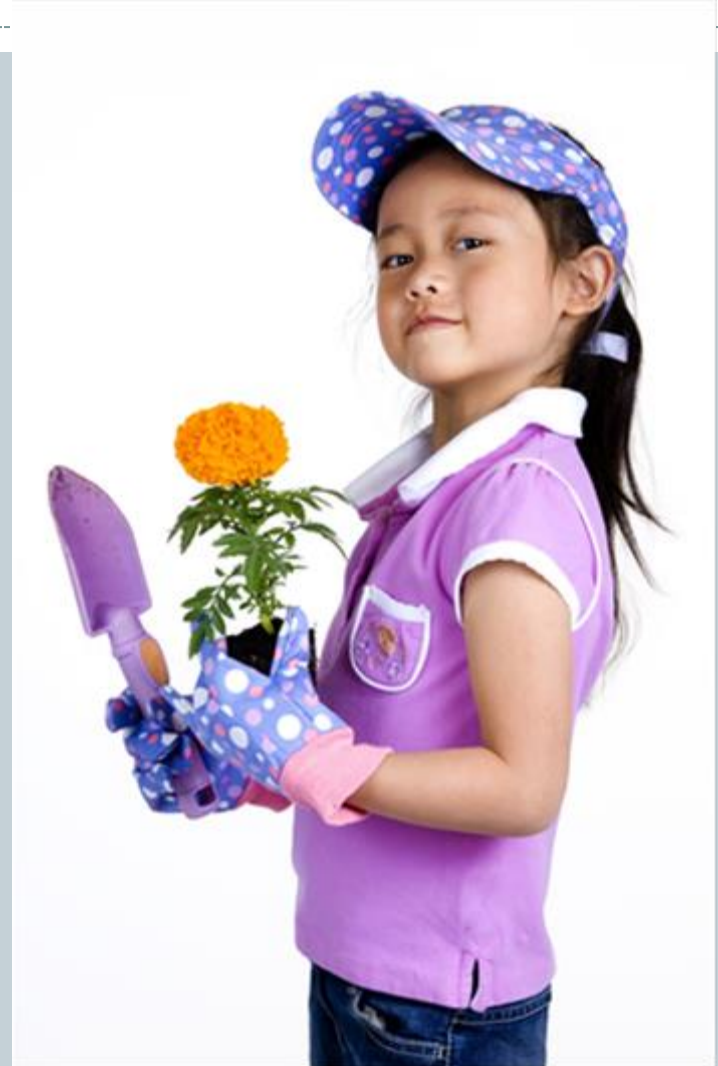
# Universal Design

- Uses “Universal Design”
  - Equitable and flexible use
  - Simple and intuitive use
  - Perceptible information
  - Tolerance for error
  - Low physical effort
  - Size and space for approachable use



# A Child's Place - Services

- All facilities barrier free
- Staff have backgrounds in special education
- Fully accessible sensory gardens



# More BPL Services

- **Multisensory programs**
- **Twin vision, braille, and audio books are available**
- **Adaptive toys are available**



- Puppets, toys, and other items are used to illustrate stories
- Craft projects/ visual and textural appeal



- Adaptive tools





- **Interpreters are available at libraries upon request**



- **Weekday after-school programs**



# Woodlynde School, Strafford, Pennsylvania

- Focus on what kids need and want
- Arranged books by genre - with link to Learning Ally
- *Learning Ally books are compatible and more visible. Students select Learning Ally books for their outside reading thus are more comfortable using the technology when they need it.*



# New Jersey State Library Talking Book And Braille Center

- Grant from Comcast for software for 40 computers in public libraries
- People view FREE services available from TBBC
- Upgrades have AI Squared Zoom Text accessible software





- Zoom Text magnifies and reads aloud
- TBBC helps publicize to clients about services in public libraries
  - Mailing list
  - Presentations
  - Training for librarians and users



# Welcome



## Audiovision

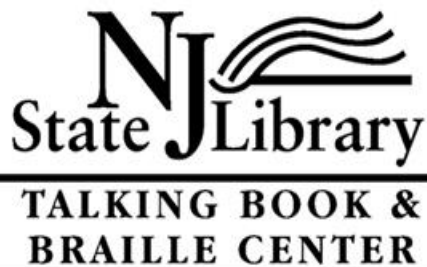
a radio reading service at the  
New Jersey State Library  
Talking Book & Braille Center



Provided to NJ residents through  
funding from the NJ Commission  
for the Blind and Visually



**Digital Book  
Sampler Collection**



*An affiliate of Thomas Edison State College*



**BARD**  
Braille and  
Audio Reading  
Download Web Site