

PWD (people with disabilities) in the library

Digital handout:

<http://bit.ly/PWDLIBS>

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A few definitions

**Able-bodied/Neurotypical
(also “abled”)**

Neurodivergent

Abled/AB Narrative

Abled Narrative/PWD as “Inspiration”





Hello!

I'm Bryce

I'm a disabled person with cerebral palsy!

I work in libraries and I'm a library patron.



DISABILITIES

IN THE LIBRARY
TOP 5 THINGS

Consider yourself a disability ally.

The disability community is a marginalized group

Diversity in your collections

A welcoming environment (not patronizing)

Talk directly to your patrons

If someone cannot speak, they still are able to communicate, even if it's through a caregiver

Get down on the patron's level (if they're comfortable)

Speak clearly as you would to an abled patron

#EndtheAwkward videos for more tips

Make no assumptions

Ask everyone IF you can help

Then ask HOW

BELIEVE what they communicate about their abilities

Make your programming accessible

Invite parents and caregivers to attend programs

Rethink races/performances so that a group's outcome is not dependent on one person

Have a few different ways to interact with the program

Exceed ADA Compliance



 **Nathalie Gordon**
@awilinnatty  

If only nature would find a way to cover these oranges so we didn't need to waste so much plastic on them.



RETWEETS 110,187 LIKES 111,002 

Promote Universal Design

Look around for ways to improve your space and service for PWD

Connect that change to a convenience for all patrons

Most curbs at stoplights now exceed ADA compliance due to universal design!

In conclusion

Disabled people are real people

Our lives are not extraordinary just because we exist

We are in your library.



Thanks!

Any questions?

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