



Until Everyone Can Read: Children's Books Representing Dyslexic Readers

Comprehensive Initiative Guide



Expanding access to dyslexia-inclusive children's books and evidence-based literacy resources through public libraries across Northern Ohio.



A Literacy Initiative From

International
DYSLEXIA
Association®
Northern Ohio

noh.dyslexiaida.org



For more than 35 years, the Northern Ohio Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (NOBIDA) has served individuals with dyslexia, families, educators, and professionals throughout Northern Ohio. Our all-volunteer, working board serves the community through providing education, professional development, resources, and outreach rooted in evidence-based literacy practices.

Work That Matters

Dyslexia is a language-based learning difference that primarily affects reading, spelling, and writing. With evidence-based instruction and appropriate support, individuals with dyslexia can thrive. Despite how common dyslexia is, it is often misunderstood. Too many students do not receive timely identification or instruction aligned with evidence-based reading research.

At NOBIDA, we believe everyone deserves the opportunity to read, learn, and succeed. Our work focuses on increasing awareness, promoting evidence-based instructional practices, and connecting our community with tools that support literacy development.

NOBIDA's Mission

We offer hope, education, and the opportunity for personal success to people with dyslexia and those who interact with them in Northern Ohio.

Learn More About Literacy and Dyslexia

Northern Ohio Branch of the
International Dyslexia Association
(NOBIDA)
noh.dyslexiaida.org

Until Everyone Can Read.



Every Child Deserves to Find Themselves in a Story

Until Everyone Can Read: Children's Books Representing Dyslexic Readers helps public libraries expand collections to include more books that feature characters with dyslexia and dyslexia-inclusive themes, while also providing families with trusted, evidence-based literacy resources.

Through partnerships with libraries across Northern Ohio, this initiative helps children see themselves reflected in stories and build understanding of learning differences. It also gives caregivers accessible tools to support reading development at home. By making these resources freely available through public libraries, the initiative helps ensure that children and families can access them regardless of income, background, or prior knowledge of dyslexia.

Although these books are especially meaningful for children with dyslexia, they are written for all readers. By introducing different ways of learning through engaging stories, they help build empathy, understanding, and appreciation for learning differences while creating more inclusive communities.

This initiative is part of a broader effort to improve literacy outcomes by increasing both representation and access to evidence-based reading resources in public libraries. Phase 1 prioritizes libraries serving communities with greater barriers to accessing literacy resources, including those serving high-poverty school districts as defined by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Report-Card-Resources/Supplemental-Information/Typology-of-Ohio-School-Districts>).



THE CHALLENGE

An estimated 15–20% of people are affected by dyslexia, yet many children with dyslexia rarely see their experiences reflected in the books they read. Representation can help children recognize their experiences, build confidence, and see learning differences as part of human diversity.

At the same time, many families struggle to find trustworthy, accessible information about dyslexia, reading development, and how to support literacy growth at home. Without reliable resources, caregivers may not know where to turn for guidance.

Public libraries are uniquely positioned to help address this gap. As trusted community spaces that provide free and equitable access to information, libraries can connect children, families, educators, and community members with inclusive stories and evidence-based literacy resources. These materials not only support children with dyslexia and their caregivers, but also help readers of all ages understand how reading develops, appreciate different ways of learning, and foster empathy for individuals who learn differently.

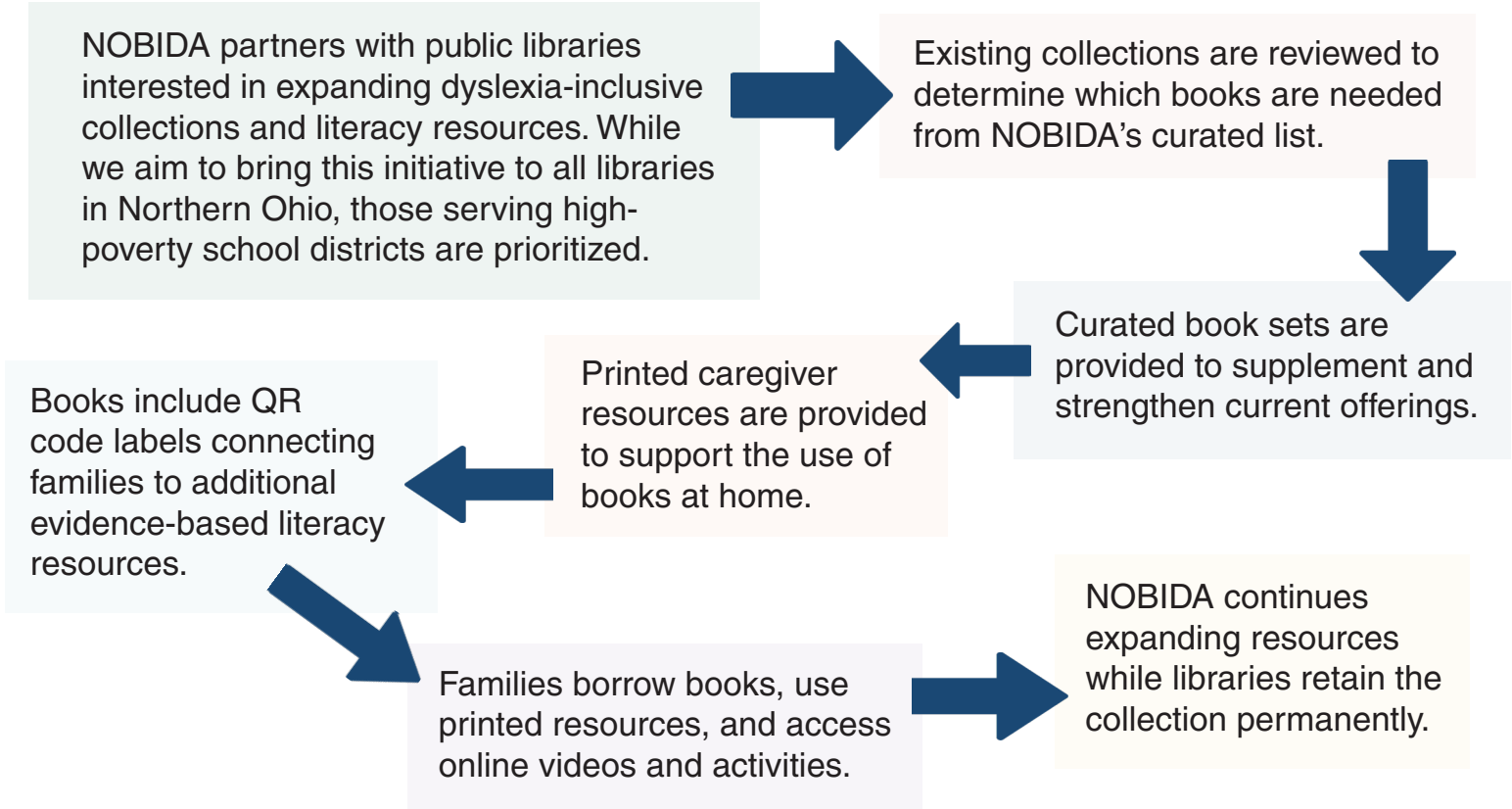
OUR SOLUTION

NOBIDA partners with libraries to provide:

- ✓ A curated collection of children's books featuring dyslexic characters and themes
- ✓ Printable family-friendly resources grounded in current literacy research and the Science of Reading
- ✓ Access to additional online support resources developed by NOBIDA

Together, these materials help children see themselves reflected in stories while giving caregivers practical tools to support literacy at home. Each participating library receives a permanent collection that families can borrow free of charge, creating a lasting community resource that continues to benefit readers for years to come.

How The Initiative Works



What Makes This Initiative Unique

Unlike traditional book donation programs, *Until Everyone Can Read* combines carefully curated dyslexia-inclusive literature with evidence-based family literacy resources, bilingual materials, and ongoing online supports. By placing permanent collections in public libraries, the initiative creates a sustainable community resource that continues serving families for years.



What's Included in the Initiative

Each participating library receives:

- ✓ A permanent curated collection of children's books
- ✓ Printed caregiver guide in English and Spanish
- ✓ Book labels with QR codes linking to family resources
- ✓ Online access to videos and companion activities
- ✓ Ongoing additions to online resources

Featured Books

Each collection includes thoughtfully curated children's books that promote dyslexia awareness, celebrate different ways of learning, foster empathy, and encourage positive reading identities.



- 📖 **Aaron Slater, Illustrator** by Andrea Beaty (Grades K-2)
- 📖 **Brilliant Bea** by Shaina Rudolph & Mary Vukadinovich (Grades K-3)
- 📖 **Fish in a Tree** by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (Grades 5-9)
- 📖 **Hank Zipzer Series** by Henry Winkler & Lin Oliver (Grades 3-7)
- 📖 **How Your Brain Learns to Read** by Denise Eide (Grades K-3)
- 📖 **Thank You, Mr. Falker** by Patricia Polacco (Grades K-3)
- 📖 **A Walk in the Words** by Hudson Talbott (Grades Preschool-3)

Books are selected by NOBIDA using criteria that prioritize accurate representation of dyslexia, age appropriateness, literary quality, diverse perspectives, and alignment with current evidence regarding reading development and the Science of Reading.

Family Resources

Family resources are available on our initiative page:

- Caregiver Guide (English)
- Caregiver Guide (Spanish)
- Narrated Video (English)
- Narrated Video (Spanish)
- Activities to Accompany Books

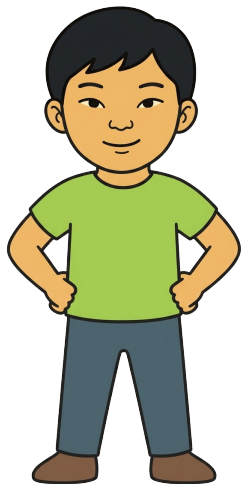


Additional resources are added regularly as the initiative continues to expand. Visit our initiative page for the latest materials and updates.



Initiative Progress

- ✓ Phase 1 underway
- ✓ Libraries joining on a rolling basis
- ✓ New family resources added regularly
- ✓ Additional counties planned as funding allows



Early Success

Libraries that have already joined the initiative have begun making dyslexia-inclusive literature and caregiver resources available to families across Northern Ohio. As additional libraries join, NOBIDA continues refining resources based on feedback from librarians, educators, and families.

Looking Ahead

As additional funding becomes available, NOBIDA plans to expand the initiative throughout Northern Ohio while continuing to develop new family resources, translated materials, educational videos, and curated book recommendations.



Community Impact

Helping Children Find Themselves in a Story

Children who see themselves represented in books may feel more understood, recognize their strengths, and develop confidence as readers and learners.



Building Family Literacy

Caregivers gain access to trusted, evidence-based resources that support conversations about reading development and provide practical strategies for supporting literacy at home.

Reading aloud supports vocabulary development, language comprehension, background knowledge, and meaningful conversations, regardless of a child's reading level.

Increasing Dyslexia Awareness

Books featuring characters with dyslexia help children, families, and community members better understand learning differences. By increasing awareness and fostering empathy, the initiative helps create more inclusive communities where children with dyslexia feel understood and supported.

Strengthening Community Resources

Public libraries serve as trusted community hubs that provide free, equitable access to inclusive books and evidence-based literacy resources. Because each collection becomes a permanent part of the library, the impact continues long after the initial investment.

Why Public Libraries?

- ✓ Free and equitable access for every family
- ✓ Trusted community institutions already serving children, caregivers, and educators
- ✓ Permanent collections that provide lasting community impact
- ✓ Opportunities to reach families beyond traditional school-based services

Get Involved with the Initiative

Library Partnerships

While this initiative is designed for expansion across Northern Ohio, Phase 1 prioritizes libraries serving communities with greater barriers to accessing literacy resources (with high-poverty school districts, as defined by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce).

Phase 1 is currently underway, and library participation is being added on a rolling basis.

Libraries interested in participating are encouraged to contact NOBIDA to learn more about eligibility, implementation, and upcoming expansion opportunities.

contact.us@nobida.org

Grant Funding Opportunities

Foundations and grant partners play an essential role in expanding access to dyslexia-inclusive children's books and evidence-based literacy resources. Grant funding allows NOBIDA to reach additional libraries, develop educational materials, and expand into communities where access to literacy resources may be limited.

We welcome partnerships with organizations whose priorities include literacy, education, children and families, libraries, disability inclusion, or community well-being.

Individual Giving Opportunities

Donations directly support placing dyslexia-inclusive books and resources into the hands of children and families through their local libraries. This helps children see themselves in stories, gives families trusted literacy resources, and increases community awareness of dyslexia and evidence-based reading practices.

Every contribution makes a difference. While the examples below illustrate the impact of gifts at different levels, donations of any amount are appreciated and help NOBIDA expand access to these resources.

- **\$150** provides a dyslexia-inclusive book collection and caregiver resources for one library.
- **\$450 to \$1,200** funds the initiative for every participating library in one county.
- **\$24,000** supports Phase 1 of the initiative across NOBIDA's target service area.

To support this initiative through NOBIDA's donation page, please login and select **Community Based Initiatives** as the area you would like to support.



Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities

Businesses and organizations can make a lasting investment in literacy, inclusion, and educational opportunity by sponsoring this initiative. Sponsorships demonstrate a commitment to supporting children, families, and communities while increasing access to inclusive books and trusted information about literacy and dyslexia.

Sponsors receive meaningful recognition opportunities and updates on the initiative's growth, including participating libraries, new educational resources, and the communities reached through their support. We welcome conversations about creating partnerships that align with an organization's community priorities, geographic interests, and areas of giving. Sponsorship opportunities may be customized whenever possible to create a meaningful connection between your organization and the communities you serve.



Sponsor One Library Collection | \$150

Provides one participating library with a curated collection of children's books featuring characters with dyslexia and caregiver literacy resources.

- Listed as a Community Program Sponsor on the initiative webpage
- Recognition in the NOBIDA e-newsletter

Expand Access to Multiple Libraries | \$300

Supports the placement of dyslexia-inclusive book collections and family literacy resources in multiple participating libraries.

- Listed as a Community Program Sponsor on the initiative webpage
- Recognition in the NOBIDA e-newsletter
- Social media recognition (one dedicated post)

Support Community Expansion | \$600

Helps expand Until Everyone Can Read resources to additional libraries within a targeted community or county.

- Logo as a Community Program Sponsor on the initiative webpage
- Recognition in the NOBIDA e-newsletter
- Social media recognition (one dedicated post)
- Opportunity to provide a brief company statement (50 words) on the initiative webpage

Sponsor Regional Expansion | \$1000+

Provides significant support toward expanding the initiative across a county or multiple library communities.

- Premier Placement Logo with link as a Community Program Sponsor on the initiative webpage
- Featured sponsor spotlight in NOBIDA newsletter and social media
- Opportunity to provide a brief company statement (50 words) on the initiative webpage
- Recognition at NOBIDA's Annual Symposium in the program slides

Media & Podcast Opportunities

NOBIDA is available for:

- Interviews
- Expert commentary
- Podcast conversations

We can also provide background information, visuals, and supporting materials for media coverage or podcast preparation upon request.

Please email us at contact.us@nobida.org for media opportunities.

Topics:

- Dyslexia awareness
- Evidence-based literacy practices
- Representation of dyslexia in children's literature
- Family literacy
- Community literacy initiatives
- Public library partnerships

Other Ways to Support This Initiative

There are many meaningful ways to support this initiative beyond financial contributions. These actions help increase awareness and expand access to dyslexia-inclusive literacy resources.

More Ways to Get Involved Include:

- Using initiative materials at your local library and sharing feedback or experiences
- Sharing the initiative with colleagues, community members, and local networks
- Promoting the initiative through social media, newsletters, and community communications
- Connecting the initiative with schools, libraries, and organizations that may be interested in participation or collaboration
- Supporting awareness efforts during Dyslexia Awareness Month and related literacy events
- Supporting awareness efforts through initiative merchandise from our Bonfire shop (<https://www.bonfire.com/org/northern-ohio-branch-of-the-orton-dyslexia-society-341635119/>)

These actions help expand awareness and ensure more families and educators can access dyslexia-inclusive literacy resources—because every child deserves to find themselves in a story.

