

World Autism Awareness Week

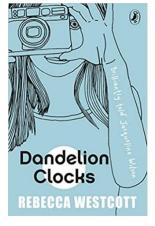
29th March - 4th April 2021

Recommended fiction and non-fiction reading on the subject of Autism



The London eye mystery

The London Eye Mystery is a children's mystery novel by English author Siobhan Dowd. First published in 2007, it tells the story of how Ted, a boy with Asperger syndrome, and his sister Kat, solve the mystery of how their cousin, Salim, seemingly vanishes from inside a sealed capsule on the London Eye.



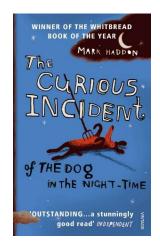
Dandelion clocks

Powerful, memorable and accessible, the book also boasts a very positive depiction of a character with Asperger's Syndrome which reminds us that the autistic spectrum is indeed just that - a spectrum - and those on it may share similar characteristics but should not be pigeon-holed.



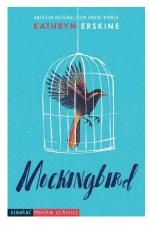
The reason I jump

How can we know what a personespecially a child - with autism is thinking and feeling? This groundbreaking book, written by Naoki Higashida when he was only thirteen, provides some answers. An invaluable tool for family members trying to understand autistic behaviour but also a fascinating and powerful read in its own right.



The curious incident of the dog in the night-time

Christopher is an intelligent youth who lives in the functional hinterland of autism--every day is an investigation for him because of all the aspects of human life that he does not quite get. When the dog next door is killed with a garden fork, Christopher becomes quietly persistent in his desire to find out what has happened and tugs away at the world around him until a lot of secrets unravel messily.



Mockingbird

Caitlin misses her brother every day. Since his death in a school shooting, she has no one to explain the world to her. And for Caitlin, the world is a confusing place. She hates it when colours get mixed up, prefers everything to be black-and-white, and needs to check her Facial Expressions Chart to understand emotions.

So, when Caitlin reads the definition of "closure", she decides that's what she needs. And as she struggles to find it, a world of colour begins to enter her black-and-white life...



Can you see me?

Written in collaboration with young blogger Libby, who is herself autistic, this is a powerful and highly relatable story about fitting in and being yourself. Tally's diary entries give an authentic insight into one girl's perspective of being autistic, and smashing a host of common assumptions and stereotypes about autism as we see Tally's potent sense of humour and her deep empathy. Most powerful of all is Tally's ultimate realisation that autism is not something that needs to be hidden.