**Books for Children**


Available from: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 400 Market St, Suite 400 Philadelphia, PA 19106, USA
Website: [www.jkp.com](http://www.jkp.com)

This bright and positive book is written with the emphasis that being different is a great way to be. The book addresses the many differing characteristics, struggles, and strengths of people with Asperger’s. The text provides the reader with the opportunity to adopt and better understand the perspective of children with Asperger’s. It could be a useful resource for people with Asperger’s as well as for people living with and working with this population. The goal of acceptance as well as understanding is demonstrated by easy-to-read and entertaining text and pictorial illustrations.


Available from: Magination Press, 750 First St, NE, Washington, DC, 20002.
Website: [apa.org/pubs/magination](http://apa.org/pubs/magination)

This well-written written book is a helpful resource for students with Asperger’s as they transition into the social world of middle school. The book is written and organized to be read by students themselves as they try to learn the “unwritten and confusing” social rules of school. Topics include: Understanding feelings and emotions; Asking teachers for help; Having good classroom behavior; Navigating lunch, recess, gym, and other situations in school; Interacting with others; Dealing with bullies; and maintaining healthy habits. Incorporated within each chapter are an abundance of examples as well as ‘quizzes’ and the encouragement of SMART goals: goals that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timely. This positively-focused and easily readable book can assist children with Asperger’s in their school social success.


This book, taken from the perspective of a 14-year-old girl named Jenny whose younger brother has Autism, chronicles Jenny’s day-to-day life in the form of diary entries. The focus of the progression of the entries is Jenny’s life in relation to her brother as well as her life as it develops separately from her brother. The author, a clinical supervisor as well as the author of several other children’s books, illustrates the complexities of living with a sibling who has autism. As well as Jenny’s role as “Ezra’s sister, protector, defender, and his best and only friend,” Cain also describes Jenny’s role as daughter, friend, student, young teenager, and an aspiring journalist.

As the story concludes and the “invisible cord” between Jenny and Ezra loosens and Jenny grows as an individual as well as an advocate for her brother, she states, “Of course I’ll always protect my brother, care for him, and try to keep him safe. But does caring for him mean I can’t care for me?” This sensitively-told story would be a positive and helpful resource for siblings who struggle with the contradictory feelings of strong desires to protect and care for siblings, as well as needing to grow as individuals.

**Blue Bottle: An Asperger Adventure,** by Kathy Hoopmann, 93 pages, $13.95 (paperback).

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This intriguing story, written for children, gives an understandable account of how Asperger’s Syndrome affects the day-to-day functioning of a family. The book is a mystery about a boy named Ben and his friend Andy who find a magical bottle in the school yard that unleashes mysterious forces. Written by Kathy Hoopman, a primary school teacher, this book offers insight into the thinking of children on the autism spectrum.
Of Mice and Aliens: by, Kathy Hoopmann, 108 pages, $14.95 (paper).

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This adventurous children’s tale is the sequel to Blue Bottle Mystery, written by school teacher Kathy Hoopmann. The main character, Ben, is learning to cope with his new diagnosis of Asperger’s syndrome when one day a alien crashes in his back yard. While Ben is trying to learn to live with Asperger’s Syndrome, the alien is learning how to live on earth. This book helps children understand not only the manifestations of Asperger’s Syndrome, but how the disability impacts lives day-to-day.