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Forsyth and Powers' "The Bigger Picture Book of Amazing Dyslexics and the Jobs They Do" (book review)

Lillian Purdy
Louisiana College

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Book Reviews



Forsyth, K.I., & Power K. (2020). *The bigger picture book of amazing dyslexics and the jobs they do*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. 200 pp. \$20.95. ISBN 9781785925849

The authors have created a follow up book to *The Illustrated Guide to Dyslexia* (2017), a text written for children and teens with dyslexia. The authors are parents of children with dyslexia, and their books fill a need for texts that provide positive images of successful adults who are dyslexic. The text's target audience is older teens and young adults. It is written to demonstrate that dyslexia should not limit their career options, and the profiles in the book successfully prove that dyslexia does not prevent individuals from pursuing their career passions. This is a fun book, full of color and pictures that positively portray successful adults who have dyslexia working in their chosen fields. The format and visual presentation make the book easy to read. This new book offers short testimonials and encouragement from adults and provides a great starting point for teens and young adults as they consider their career options.

The colorful text has two parts. In the first section, individuals in a variety of professional careers respond to a list of questions and responses. The profiles provide a picture of the person and their responses to the questions. By using the same questions for each profile, the reader can see that people with dyslexia are not limited in their career choices. The careers cover the spectrum of fields: architects, actors, chefs, entrepreneurs, surgeons, athletes, and farmers, just to name a few. Those profiled offer strategies and tips for coping with dyslexia, challenges faced, and proud moments, as well as moments that left them panicked. Each person interviewed offers an encouraging message. The clips are short, so the readers do not get bogged down in text. The main point of each profile is in color and stands out on the page.

Part two of the text provides advice from experts in the field of dyslexia. These individuals also represent a variety of career fields and offer positive sound bites for the reader. Each clip in part two is short with a main idea to encourage the reader.

The book demonstrates to young adults with dyslexia that they can follow their dreams and learn to accommodate their dyslexia. The authors use color, images, and varied font size to create a text that is accessible and fun to read. The book is open-ended and encourages the readers to think about their career interests and follow their passions.

The style of the text does not lend itself to an extensive bibliography; however, a list of additional resources might be beneficial. The book does not offer scientific data or definitions of dyslexia, but that is not the purpose of the book. Instead, this book can assist young adults as they consider majors for college or career decisions. This book is a good addition for high school libraries and career counseling offices.

Reviewer

Lillian Purdy, Louisiana College