



# Guide to promote reading

**Parental guide for promoting  
Good Reading habits for children  
with intellectual disabilities**



**EASYNEWS**

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## Reading with an intellectual disability

All individuals read and learn to read in different ways. But to give a basic picture of and understanding of how people with intellectual disabilities read, here we have collected some **characteristics that people with intellectual disabilities (ID) can have.**

### **People with ID may have deficits in their working memory.**

When it comes to reading this means that in the moment it can be difficult to keep letters and words in memory long enough for the text to take on meaning. Due to the weak working memory, people with ID often have a weak phonological awareness. Phonological awareness is about the understanding that words are made up of different sounds, and that the letters represent these specific sounds. It is not only working memory that is a challenge, but in many cases also concentration difficulties. Therefore, it is important to use the strengths that exists.

### **People with ID need context and recognition when they read.**

This is important to think about when choosing materials and texts to practice reading with. They must be at the right level and relevant to the moment. It is not effective to sit in the summer and read texts about "the brother that ice-skate". Is there even a brother in the family? Why do you ice-skate in the summer?

With this as a starting point, learning to read for people with ID can mean extra efforts and more challenges. But the possibilities are also many and significant - with the right knowledge!

### **People with ID can have an incredibly good visual memory.**

Then you can see words as a picture - instead of seeing them as several separate letters. This strength can be used well when training reading.

For people with ID, it pays to work with word pictures and look at whole words. In periods when you choose to systematically practice reading, you should preferably use words that do not consist of more than about 3 or 4 sounds. Shorter words are easier to see as pictures.

The strong visual memory also speaks for the use of images and symbols as support. This visual support should stay with you for a long time, and you can return to it at times, even when the reader is a youth and an adult. One tends to abandon visual support too soon, as soon as reading flows a little better.



## Parental expectations

As a parent, it is completely natural to have a need for comparison and reference points. There are probably questions and thoughts about how your child is developing. Here will be some **frameworks to start from**, as you as a parent want to familiarize yourself with how your child with ID develops in his reading.

The level of development in people with ID varies widely. This is important to remember when reading development is taken into consideration. **Don't compare with normal development, it's better to have a good dialogue with your child's school** to get an accurate picture of your child's development.

Studies show that intensive and systematic reading training really do have an effect. **The younger the intervention, the greater the effect.** And the younger the child, the more long-lasting positive effects. **Reading training can be done always, at any stage of life.** Reading training does much good - from a lifelong perspective. The level might be reading one's name, simple instructions, and signs. And even if the level that has been achieved is not that high, it is worth maintaining it.

People with ID doesn't always understand what they read, even if they can read well. Reading comprehension and reading accuracy do not go hand in hand. **Reading comprehension can be delayed by many years if ever compared to people with typical development.** That's why easy to read material is so important.





## Which benefits do people with ID get from reading.

Literacy should certainly not be overlooked or underestimated because of an intellectual disability. There is a lot to gain from reading.



### Quality of life

Literacy gives people with learning difficulties an increased chance of participation. It is important to participate in inclusive education, participate in digital environments, get a place in working life, and achieve sufficient independence in your life. We must work systematically to get an individual to reach their potential and achieve the best possible quality of life. Literacy is a factor that has a significant role in this work.

### Language and communication.

All individuals develop throughout their lives. Literacy provides a good basis for how language develops. With a bigger vocabulary you will get more vocal. And with voice you have greater impact on your own life.

### Clear pronunciation.

People with ID can have slurred speech for various reasons. And purely in terms of content, the speech is also difficult to interpret because people with ID can have trouble naming things. Reading can make speech clearer. Namely, it is easier to clearly pronounce what you read, than to clearly pronounce what you spontaneously say in everyday speech. These positive experiences of "it sounds right" will spur and motivate the individual to continue speaking more clearly.

## Basic reading training at home

Here we present you **some activities for the training of the basic reading** that you can implement at home.

### Play with letters

Familiarity with the letters with multiple senses is important. For example, use tactile letters, which you can touch and feel. You can use magnetic letters on refrigerators or ones you build up with pieces of wood, shaped in straight lines and arcs. The more senses that are integrated into the work, the better.



### Word cloud

This exercise is based on the person doing reading training having a strong visual memory. Write a word and draw around the outer contours, for example on a baking paper or against a window. Then you get a word cloud to look at. What does it resemble? Discuss. It is also possible to draw outlines around words in newspapers or in books. This enhances reading because it automates word recognition.

### Logos

It is fine to work with the logos. These can be ones that are already familiar, or ones that are important to recognize. Start by looking at the logo. Is it possible to tell cognize a whole word.

### Recognition

Did the neighbor's dog run across your yard? Take out pen and paper, write in as fine letters as you can now. Make one sentence per line.

Feel free to use simple and short words that are pronounced as they are written. This will be good reading material for later.

The recognition is great and there is a clear context here. You are at home, the event is familiar, the handwriting is familiar. Reuse the text on occasion if you see the dog again. Repetitions are good.

### Stories from pictures

People with ID expand their vocabulary mainly by talking about the word. Language is best developed orally. New words should therefore come up in



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speech, so that they are then also familiar in text. Use images and photographs where something interesting is happening. Stimulate the language. Don't forget the pictures in fact books.

### Told stories

Reading aloud is an accepted and widely known way to increase vocabulary. If you are too tired to read aloud yourself as a parent, you can always use audiobooks.

### Rhyme

Rhyme words, especially with youth and young adults. Rhyming is possibly a more difficult challenge for people with ID, but rhyming provides a sense of language and a rhythm that also develops reading fluency. You can do this spontaneously, but there are also many ready-made games to buy.

Finally, you, as a parent, choose how you do things, according to your capacity, knowledge, and energy. **The work of the home should basically be based on spontaneous play and shared pleasant moments.** The reading training that is done at home should be a supplement and it does not replace the systematic reading training that is done in school and education.





# **Best practices**

**that can stimulate Reading  
from across Europe**

**Here** are gathered a great mix of tools and methods from across Europe on how to promote reading for people with ID.

Not all are applicable everywhere but maybe you can find something similar in your country or which you can benefit from.



## NeuronUP - COGNITIVE SIMULATION PLATFORM FOR PROFESSIONALS

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Online Platform	On request	Teachers & other professionals	Tool for promoting cognitive rehabilitation and stimulation processes

Origin: Spain

Available in: Spanish, English, French and Portuguese

NeuronUP is a fundamental tool for professionals involved in cognitive rehabilitation and stimulation processes. It consists of numerous material and resources to design the sessions, as well as a patient manager to save the results in an orderly manner. It is hosted on a Cloud Computing system, that is, it is a web page that the professional can access at any time and from anywhere to review the results of their patients, plan sessions, consult exercises, etc. In addition, thanks to this, the constant generation of new material and the updates of the platform are available in real time.

The platform consists of two main sections:

- Activity Manager: contains numerous materials exhaustively categorized for conducting treatment sessions.
- Results Manager: a practical and organized database for storing the results of all the completed activities.

### Activity Manager

NeuronUP brings together numerous and varied material for the professional to design their interventions in a personalized way, adapting them to the maximum to each patient and her needs.

Thus, there are thousands of exercises, tools and real life simulators that allow you to exercise both basic cognitive functions as well as activities of daily living and social skills. It also includes extra content (bank of images and sounds, videos and various applications) that help the therapist to design their own activities in a different and more motivating way.

The classification of the activities considers the different areas of intervention mentioned above, the different degrees of affectation, age, the possibility of executing it individually or in a group, the socio-cultural and educational level and the possible sensory limitations.



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The mode of presentation of the tasks is also taken into account, so there are two work formats: pencil and paper material and digital material, which is worked on the computer or tablet and allows execution on touch screens.

It should be noted that the material presents an attractive and careful aesthetic, in addition to allowing the personalization of content (activity parameters, images and texts that are significant for the subject), which has an important motivating effect when it comes to adherence to treatment.

All this results in an intensive and personalized intervention, adapting to the circumstances and needs of each case.

This platform includes an specific section of the intellectual disability which, at the same time, includes also activities for the promotion of reading and writing.

### Results Manager

NeuronUP automatically records the comprehensive quantitative results of all activities performed on the computer and also allows you to save the results of activities done on paper. Additionally, it easily incorporates the professional's qualitative observations so as to have complete information in one location.

All of this allows for the control and organization of every patient's activities; making it possible to easily check results, and to quickly and effectively verify how patients are progressing in different areas.



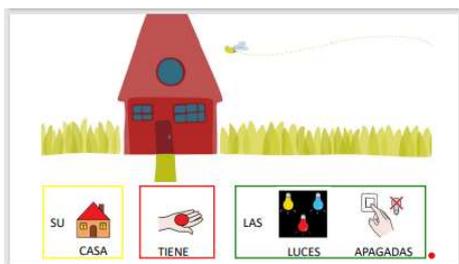
<https://www.neuronup.com/>

## Cuentigo – BOOKS TO PROMOTE READING AMONG CHILDREN WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Web Online	Online	Parents & Teachers	Infant stories adapted with pictograms to make them accessible to children with intellectual disabilities

Origin: Spain

The Cuentigo are a series of stories written by people with intellectual disabilities that we have adapted using pictograms so that the little ones can read. A Down Madrid project with the support of the ACS Foundation and INNOCEAN with the aim of bringing reading to children with special educational needs derived from their disability.



The initiative arose from the need to promote the habit of reading among people with intellectual disabilities from an early age. Studies on the subject indicate that between 60 and 80 percent of this group shows a significant degree of immaturity in language and difficulties in acquiring reading skills. In this way, they are excluded from access to information, culture and literature.



At the website of Cuentigo it can be found a total of 10 different infant books adapted with pictograms. The stories are only available in Spanish.

We encourage you to do the same with the traditional children stories of your country. Many free pictograms can be found in Internet or through national organisations.

<https://downmadrid.org/cuentigo-libros-las-personas-discapacidad-intelectual-disfruten-la-lectura/>

Link



## El huerto de Ideas

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Web Online	Online	Parents & Teachers	This project consists of promoting the use of easy reading both in the preparation of materials and in the promotion of reading in people with disabilities, in the community, in the administration and in federated entities.

Origin: Spain

### Summary

Access to information and culture is a right recognized in the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This right, like many others, is far from being a real right in practice. It is necessary to promote actions that imply compliance with the rights set forth in the UN Convention and ratified by the government of Spain, 9 years ago.

Easy reading is a tool that allows us to know our rights and obligations, allows us to access culture, information, allows us to participate, ... In short, easy reading makes it possible to make choices, be free and have an autonomous life.

### Objectives

- Promote the autonomy of people with intellectual disabilities by eliminating the barriers that prevent access to information.
- Encourage better understanding in people with intellectual disabilities, through reading.
- Encourage the use of easy reading by federated associations, the community and the public administration.
- To achieve our objectives we have proposed actions in which federated associations, the community and the administration participate, such as training on adapting texts to easy reading, training on revitalizing reading clubs, raising awareness about easy reading, making experiences visible or preparing and adaptation of texts in easy reading.

### Actions

3 trainings on "Preparation of easy-to-read materials", in which 63 people have participated.

Creation and dissemination of a library with easy-to-read books and pictogram books (we counted 138 copies of 33 different titles).



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Promotion of the creation of reading clubs through training and visibility of experiences.

Organization of an awareness day on easy reading and experiences of adaptation and preparation of texts.

Preparation of easy-to-read documents aimed at people with disabilities (call for IMSERSO trips, diptych on security in social networks, call for selection process ...)

Participation in the development of the Accessibility Law of Galicia, so that it expressly includes easy reading.

We have demanded the Xunta de Galicia, the use of easy-to-read documentation, in the call for the selection process, of specific ordinance places for people with intellectual disabilities.

### Results

Improve the autonomy of people with intellectual or developmental disabilities, eliminating obstacles that hinder access to information and culture.

Have increased the autonomy of people, by facilitating the understanding of various documents in high demand by people with disabilities (IMSERSO travel call, diptych of safe use of social networks, call for selection process, ...)

Have achieved that at least 150 people with intellectual disabilities, who receive support from the Federation, in the preparation of specific oppositions, can access the official call for the selection process for ordinance, published in Easy Reading on the website of the Xunta de Galicia.

For now, there are more than 120 people with intellectual or developmental disabilities, who participate in 9 easy reading clubs, which are increasing in number little by little. As if that were not enough, some of these clubs have an inclusive character as they operate in public libraries, in which people without disabilities or the elderly participate.

Have managed to include, in the Galician Accessibility Law, Easy Reading, as a formula to facilitate the understanding of the information, in its articles 11, 14, 25 and 34.

Have managed to bring Easy Reading to 13 different entities that use the books in our library in Easy Reading.

**Link**

<https://elhuertodeideas.org/blog/4553>



## La mesita – VIRTUAL DESKTOP FOR THE STIMULATION OF THE READING

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Web Online	Online	Parents & Teachers	Virtual desktop for the stimulation of the reading development of girls and boys with Special Educational Needs

Origin: Spain

La Mesita is a free download application for touch devices, recommended for tablets. In addition, it only requires an internet connection for download, but it is not necessary for its use.

This application seeks to promote the reading development of girls and boys in a flexible, organic and fun way, through a path work that includes stimulation of auditory discrimination, phonological skills, linguistic skills and alphabetic and literacy principles.

La Mesita is a flexible tool that allows the autonomous exploration of the user, as well as work accompanied by a mediator who can adapt an intervention program. The application incorporates a Work Manual that works as a reading instruction model in which you can find a series of recommendations for the design and implementation of a stimulation program.

The application has a series of tools that allow presenting various activities through writing, the presentation of objects, the reading of stories, the ordering of stories, the modification of objects or words, among others.

This project is part of the FONDEF IT14110044 project “Learning to read while playing: Evaluation design of recreational activities based on digital tablets to stimulate learning to read in boys and girls with Down syndrome”.

Check in the following videos, how to promote the development of oral comprehension, phonological awareness, semantic awareness, letter knowledge and vocabulary development with La Mesita.

<http://www.cedeti.cl/tecnologias-inclusivas/software-educativo/la-mesita/>

Link



## ELPIDA

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Web Online	Online	Parents & Teachers	To improve the quality of life of persons with intellectual disabilities

Origin: EU Countries

The main objective of this two-year project (Oct. 2017 to Sep. 2019), was to improve the quality of life of persons with intellectual disabilities (PWID) by empowering family members and especially parents of PWID and providing them with the necessary knowledge and skills on how better to support the needs of children of all ages with ID.

When you have a deeper look into issues you are having, very often you will realise that the base of the problem is rooted in bad communication. In this module we will look into communication styles, channels and methods, with special focus on what is important for parents. The activities are aiming at helping you to be engaged in your child's life in a more conscious way and to be able to live and work together with others.

ELPIDA developed a module where you can learn about the difference between communication and information as an introduction. After that you will find activities and information on de-segregating yourself and de-segregation by others, levels and forms of parental involvement, understanding the other side, be them professionals, majority parents or other minorities. Parental involvement will be tackled as a form of active citizenship, and for that you will have the opportunity to understand the legal and institutional contexts better. For all of this to become a reality for you and your child, you will also have the opportunity to learn more about managing change. In the final part of the module you will find some activities to improve communication with your own child.

[www.elpida-project.eu](http://www.elpida-project.eu)

Link

### A multilingual course

for parents of people with intellectual disability

SEVEN  
LANGUAGES  
SIX  
STAND-ALONE  
MODULES



Human Rights

Communication

Stress Management

Transition to Adulthood

Sexual Health

Ageing



## ONLINE-RADIO in Easy-Language

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Tool	Internet	People with ID	Every Sunday, easy-to-understand messages are broadcast on the children's puzzle show "WOW - Knowledge or What" and on the Radio Vienna afternoon program. Weekly review is also published.

Origin: Austria

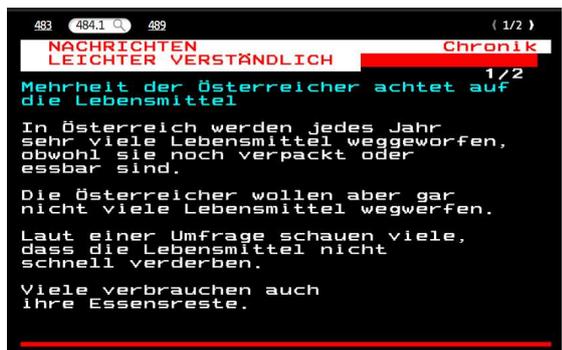
Crown crisis, politics, economics - world events are complex. And yet important information must be understood by all. In Sunday's show "Einfach! Wichtig!" on Radio Wien you can hear the news in simple language: words are simple, sentences are short. Even complex topics are presented in a way that is easy to understand.

Radio Wien (ORF.AT) creates news in easy language. Every Sunday, easy-to-understand messages are broadcasted on the children's puzzle show "WOW - Knowledge or What" and on the Radio Vienna afternoon program. Weekly review is also published. This review includes short audio podcast with main weekly news (approximately 5 minutes) and text version of this podcast. On the website of ORF visitor can find the news overview of every week.

### Glocken des Stephansdoms läuten mitten in der Nacht

Am Mittwoch sind mitten in der Nacht viele Wienerinnen und Wiener aus dem Schlaf geschreckt.  
Fast alle Glocken des Stephansdoms haben geläutet.  
Das war aber keine Absicht.  
Denn irgendjemand hat es geschafft, die Glocken über das Internet einzuschalten.  
20 Minuten haben die Glocken geläutet, bis der Pfarrer sie wieder ausschalten konnte.  
Wer die Glocken verbotenerweise eingeschaltet hat, weiß man bis heute nicht

### Der Radio Wien Wochenrückblick zum Nachhören:



The weekly review can be heard every Sunday on Radio Wien:

8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.,

1.30pm and 2.30pm

This project is funded by the Austrian Ministry of Social Affairs.

ORF has been broadcasting news in easy language since 2020, offering an important information service.



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There are also other medias publishing content in easy language:

- Unsere Zeitung is making a news overview every two weeks in cooperation with APA TopEasy-News for language levels A2 & B1;
- Barrierefrei Aufgerollt is creating audio and video interviews about accessibility, independent living and inclusion;
- Kurier proposes some of the articles in easy language;
- ORF Teletext also has easy language articles.

### Links

<https://teletext.orf.at/channel/orf1/page/480/1>

<https://wien.orf.at/radio/tags/einfach/>

<http://kurier.at/einfache-sprache>

<https://www.barrierefrei-aufgerollt.at/>

<https://www.unsere-zeitung.at/category/nachrichten/topeasy/>



## More of me! – SCHOOL BAG

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Tool	On request	Parent/teacher/person with ID	This school box contains information about the peculiarities of the learning behaviour of children with ID and is intended to make it easier for educators and parents to get started in elementary school..

Origin: Austria

Organization “Down-Syndrom Österreich” created a project called School bag “more of me!”. The idea of this project is that for children with Down syndrome and their families, entering everyday school life often means a great challenge in many areas. This school box is intended to make it easier for educators and parents to get started in elementary school. The school bag contains information about the peculiarities of the learning behaviour of children with ID and suggestions for appropriate pedagogical methods for learning to read and do arithmetic.

The complete school box costs €145 plus postage and packaging €7. It is a really good offer, considering that each of the books, included in this box, costs in average €20-30.

This school bag includes:

### *Brochure Children and youth with Down syndrome at school*

A brochure for teachers and other professionals of all school types, for parents and everyone who lives and works with school-age children and young people with Down syndrome.

This brochure provides information about health, physical, learning and behavioural aspects that can occur in children and adolescents with Down syndrome and describes the effects these have on everyday school life. Practical examples and suggestions show how lessons and schools can be designed so that students with Down syndrome feel comfortable and can achieve the best possible learning success.

### *Handbook for teachers of children with Down syndrome*

Drawing on years of practice teaching children with Down syndrome in mainstream schools, this book provides theory, tips and suggestions for teachers.

Handbook Calculation method: Yes, we can

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The manual "Yes, we can!" turns mathematics into a gaming experience. In addition to numerous exercise suggestions from the area of basic skills, all steps for acquiring arithmetic skills are explained in detail. The chapters "Life practice, money, time, weighing and measuring" create an intensive reference to everyday life.

### *Rechenprofi: Exercise book for the number range 10*

This clearly designed calculation book works out the number range 10 with the "Yes, we can" calculation method. All arithmetic exercises are structured according to the principle "from left to right". The loving drawings, in combination with photos, poems and songs, appeal to the children in particular. Teachers and parents will find valuable tips on every page to keep the little arithmetic pro's motivation high and to bring mathematics to life in everyday life.

### *Children with Down syndrome learn to read: A practical guide for parents and teachers*

The central purpose of this book is to teach children with Down syndrome to read. Before describing the specific techniques, instructions and procedures, this excellent volume explains how learning occurs in general and in children with Down's syndrome in particular.

### *Down syndrome prejudices and responses*

The author - herself the mother of a child with DS - brings together the most common prejudices and strange reservations about people with DS and gives very personal answers to them. This nicely illustrated book brings us closer to the subject of DS in an entertaining way and is well suited for use in schools.

### *Totally normal – it's normal to be different*

Nina and Felix introduce their school class, a group with very different children. And you're supposed to get along with all of them somehow? Have understanding for everyone? That's pretty tiring. But also exciting. In this brochure, Nina explains why children are so different. She introduces some classmates with their peculiarities and talks about Anna, who has Down syndrome. Felix, her friend, drew pictures for the story. It's about cells and chromosomes, about similarities and differences and about tolerance. And last but not least, the understanding that it is "totally normal" to be different. A brochure for all children between the ages of eight and twelve.

## Link

<https://www.down-syndrom.at/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Inhalt-Schultasche.pdf>

<https://www.down-syndrom.at/down-syndrom-schultasche-2/?neues-spendenformular-931>





## Fobap Onlus – EASY TO READ PROJECT

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Tool	On request	Public Institute, teachers, young people with disabilities	The project intends to apply the Easy To Read techniques in public and private areas that wish to give clear and accessible indications for communication to citizens.

Origin: Italy

The Easy To Read language consists of simplifying concepts or words so that they can be understood by everyone, and is promoted at European level by "Inclusion Europe" (European Association of people with intellectual disabilities and their families) . The highly innovative element of the project consists in the active involvement of people with intellectual disabilities who, as operators and test readers, participate in the entire process of creating the text, also receiving compensation for the work done.

Writing in easy-to-read language is neither simple nor taken for granted and requires significant investments in the training and involvement of trainers, team leaders, as well as obviously people with intellectual disabilities: access to information is a right and is condition for a just society that guarantees a concrete participation of all citizens in the life of the community. The use of "easy to read language" gives substance to the definition of accessibility contained in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in art. 9 which provides, for the States parties, to "take appropriate measures to ensure that people with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, have access to information and communication".

In particular, the method was initially applied to three different contexts, both public and private thanks to the contribution of the Comunità Bresciana Foundation:

- The Fobap Onlus site under the Anffas brand in Brescia
- The Municipality of Collebeato (BS)
- The Pinac Foundation (Children's Picture Gallery) of Rezzato (BS).



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### Aims

1) Realization for the Pinac di Rezzato Foundation of the facilitated drafting of three important documents of the Pinacoteca:

- the information brochure relating to the aims and activities of the Foundation;
- the advertising panel of the "I live here" exhibition (September 2016);
- the information panel on behavioral rules within the Foundation called "What can be done".

2) Preparation for the Municipality of Collebeato of the textual simplification:

- notices for citizenship (calls for contributions, calls for social and training opportunities, etc.) in order to avoid or reduce telephone explanations by municipal officials;
- of the newsletter of the Municipality (three annual editions).

3) Development of an Easy To Read version of the Fobap website in the following parts:

- services for people with disabilities;
- the projects;
- vision and mission.



**Link**

[https://www.fobap.it/progetto/facile\\_da\\_leggere/](https://www.fobap.it/progetto/facile_da_leggere/)



## IF – INFORMAZIONE FACILE

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Web Tool	Online	For everyone	Accessible web news.

Origin: Italy

IF's goal is to produce, by controlling their complexity, texts that deal with topical issues.

The ambition is to be a tool to counter the emergence of a communication gap with the social, political and cultural context which is a not secondary factor of suffering and marginalization.

IF verifies the legibility of its texts with the Corrige expert system! which verifies and quantifies the degree of complexity of a text. Most IF texts have an adequate degree of readability for a reader with basic school education.

Checking the legibility of a text does not impose the renunciation of dealing with complex issues, but commits to making a complex topic understandable.

IF offers some articles in AAC (Augmentative Alternative Communication) to promote participation in reading and writing of people with special communication needs. The goal is to keep people who have greater difficulties and risk not being able to "own" the social reality in which they are immersed within the communicative-informative ring.

IF was founded in 2003 and can be traced back, from a scientific point of view, to the research of prof. Tullio de Mauro and Prof. Maria Emanuela Piemontese on the criteria for checking the comprehensibility of texts.



Link

<https://informazionefacile.it/progetto-comunicazione-semplice/>

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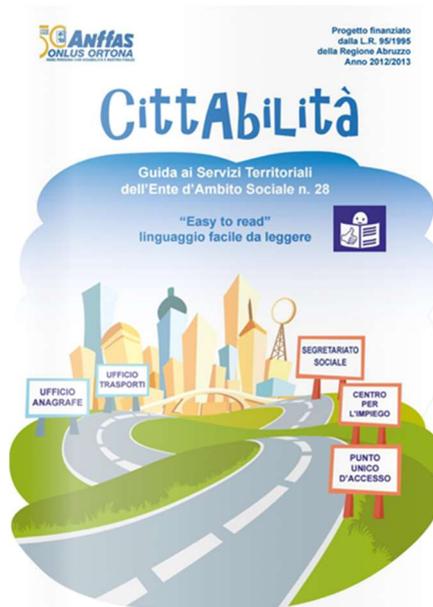
**ANFFAS – CITTABILITA'**

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Tool	On request	Everybody for public services	A guide to social and health services written entirely by people with disabilities using the easy method to read.

**Origin: Italy**

With a view to providing information that reaches everyone and that is easy to understand for everyone, the Citizenship project was born in 2014, a name given to a Guide to social and health services written entirely by people with disabilities using the easy method to read.

The "easy to read" language, easy to read, consists in the simplification of concepts and the use of easily understandable words. Communicating through this language means producing information in a way that is accessible to the largest number of people possible. With a view to making Anffas an association at the service of the whole community, this work, certainly designed for people with intellectual and / or relational disabilities, is also aimed at children, elderly people, foreigners and those in need of a clear and immediate information. Attention was focused on five services for which a strong desire for clarity and a desire for autonomy emerged from the Anffas boys: identity card; work; health; home and school; public transport. For each of them the relative managers were made available who enthusiastically embraced the cause of the project and actively participated in the implementation phases. Each of the managers explained the functioning of the service by submitting, during dedicated meetings, to the questions of the children. The information collected from the interviews conducted with the managers of the aforementioned services have been translated into easy to read. From this experience, permanent training courses have been launched for people with intellectual disabilities.



CittAbilità is a guide to Territorial Services in "easy to read" language for the inclusion of people with intellectual and / or relational disabilities, created by Anffas Onlus Ortona in 2014. Below is the brief explanation of this guide in " easy to read ":



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"CittAbilità" is a guide to help people with disabilities obtain public services. Public services are the services that the Italian State gives to all citizens.

The public services you find in this guide are:

- how to make an identity card
- how to find a job
- how to find help when you have health problems
- how to find help when you have problems at home or at school
- how to have a card to travel on public transport.

**Link**

<https://www.anffasortona.org/2018/07/27/easy-to-read-cittabilita/>

## LEGIMUS

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
App and tool	Request as special aid	Parent and person with ID	E-books/braille books/audio supported reading etc.

Origin: Sweden

Legimus is a digital library with 140 000 books and can also be used as an app.

Legimus contains e-books, audiobooks with text and braille. It's available as an app for all platforms or as a webpage.

The library is limited to people with special needs and access is granted by a city-library or a school-library. You can also get access if you are a group-reader at daycentres, libraries and for the elderly.

The library has everything from course literature to the latest novels.

Legimus is run by the Public Authority for accessible media. An authority with the mission to make sure everyone has access to literature and social communication even if you have trouble reading or an intellectual disability. They also provide services for libraries and schools to make their selections accessible for all.

If you are a student and need a special book as course literature and it's not available, you can request it to be added.



<https://www.legimus.se/start>

<https://www.mtm.se/>

Request with your doctor

Link



## POLYGLUTT/POLYLINO

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
App	Get access from schools or libraries	Schools and parents	E-books/braille books/audio supported reading etc.

Origin: Sweden

Polyglutt is an app-based library and reading platform made for children and youngsters with special needs. The app is available for teachers, pre-schools and parents granted access due to special needs. (Polylino is the same but for older children)

The application is being used by over 400 000 pre-schoolers and others with special needs. The children and young adults with special needs can choose from over 2800 books that can be read as normal, assisted reading, spoken reading at 60 languages, sign language and simplified sign language.

The app can be put in child mode where the UI gets simplified, and the children can choose easily from a selection and reading level that suits them.

The selections can be based on themes, age, and a lot of other filters.



<https://www.inlasningstjanst.se/tjanster-for-larare/polyglutt-forskola/>

Link

Parental guide for promoting good reading habits for children with intellectual disabilities

**8 Pages**

TYPE	AVAILABILITY	RECIPIENT	WHAT IT DOES
Paper newspaper and digital copy	Subscribe for paper, digital is free	Everyone that want easy to read news	Easy to read news.

Origin: Sweden

8-pages is a newspaper on easy-to-read Swedish. It was created by the state in 1984 after pressure from FUBs national assembly. The newspaper comes out once a week and has the same news coverage and news values as other newspapers. It’s not adapted for any special group. The newspapers mission statement is” We will not skip any subject because they are hard or difficult, we will make them easy instead.”

The papers 8-pages are shared with 2 pages domestic news, 1 page each of international news, sports, culture, everyday life, and a front/back page.

The newspaper is available in print and on the internet. The webpage is very clean and accessible, and you can get every article read out. You can also translate into different languages.

The printed paper has around 9500 subscribers and its mostly daycentres and group homes. The paper is a non-profit and is paid for by the government.



<https://8sidor.se/>

Link



**EASYNEWS**



**APADIS**

Asociación para la atención  
de las personas con discapacidad  
intelectual de Villena y Comarca



Austrian Association of  
Inclusive Society



**aiju**  
Technological Institute  
for children's products & leisure



**puzzle**

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