



BOOKS FOR EVERYONE



LITERATURE AND READING DISABILITIES

How can we adapt literature to grown readers with different reading disabilities?

“Easy to read”-books are made in many countries.
In each country there are different organisational backgrounds for the initiatives: Main focus on different target groups.

National approaches effect the way the books are written.
Large difference between the “quick reads” of Britain and the “easy to read-books” from Finland!



THE NORWEGIAN APPROACH

“Books for everyone” was established in 2002 with the aim of providing quality books accessible for people with reading problems.

By helping authors and publishers in writing and developing books, we want to work towards a cultural democracy.

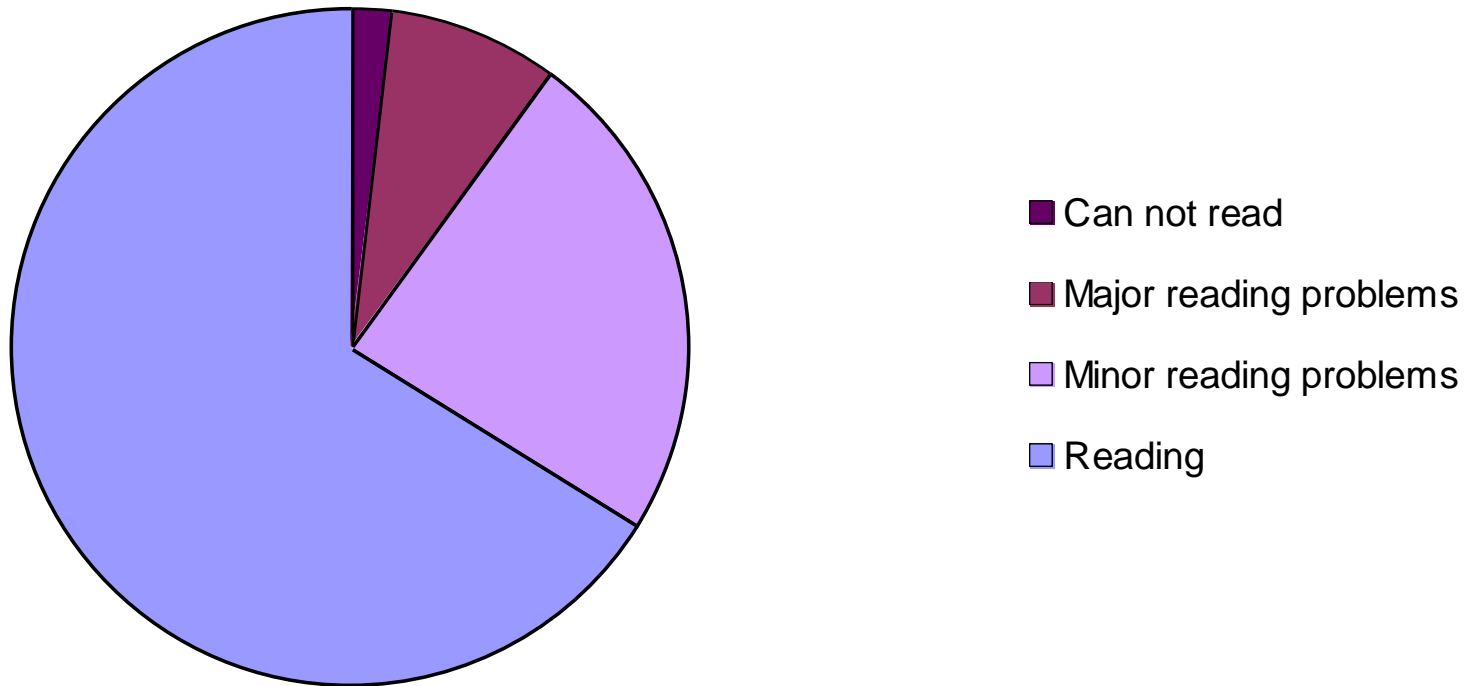
We started out with books for people with large disabilities. Very soon we realised that the same needs concerned a much larger part of the population.



LESER SØKER BOK

READING SKILLS IN NORWAY

Studies of reading ability in Norway show that:



30% of the adult population are having trouble gripping the text as we usually find it in ordinary literature.

EASY FOR WHOM?

One thing in common, but numerous reasons.
Dyslexia, dementia, ADHD, aphasia, intellectual disability,
but most of them, are not and should not be diagnosed:
reluctant readers, immigrants and elderly.

So:
In the concept of “easy to read”, we have to ask: easy for whom?

All have separate challenges that requires different books.
We should be precise about these differences. We need to describe them.



LARGE GROUPS: "QUICK READS"

Obvious adaption:

Large groups that are having trouble gripping ordinary books, simply need ordinary books where the text is easy to read:

Texts where the language does not become an obstacle for the content.



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WHAT IS A "QUICK READ"?

Short (books, sentences, words)

Easy building of sentences

Space, air, organising

If you want to adapt to specific needs:

- **Dyslexia:** Watch up for elements that makes it easy to mix-up and misunderstand meanings (letters that looks alike, splitting of phrases in different lines)
- **ADHD:** Possibility to jump in and out, love pictures and expressions
- **New immigrants:** Watch up for specific national expressions, grammar i.e.



STRATEGIES TO FIND “QUICK READS”

1. Scan the ordinary marked:

Some authors write in a more accessible language than others.

But: Few books passes the needle eye for what we can recommend.

Be surprised by how many unnecessary barriers that are put into the books only because of pure lack of awareness:

- letter size, space and air on the pages, how they split the lines and words
- some difficult passages

2. Get books written:

The right authors. Get rid of the mistakes. Work to show that the simplest is simply the best - for everyone!



QUITE ANOTHER NEED: TO UNDERSTAND

The target groups for “quick reads” are easily offended if the content of the book is “speaking down to” them.

BUT: Other target groups have the need of books that are not only easy to read, but also have a content that is easy to understand.

People with intellectual disability, aphasia or dementia.

Do not underestimate the need to be taken seriously!
Even though they may have intellectual challenges, they are not children.



EASY TO UNDERSTAND

Adaption:

The text (as with quick reads),
but make it even shorter.

And also:

Tell it as it is.

No reading between the lines!

Explain.

Use pictures and illustrations

to explain once more.



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OTHER ADAPTIONS

Other kind of technical adaptations for different handicaps:

LARGE PRINT

BRaille + TACTILE PICTURES

SIGN LANGUAGE

SYMBOL LANGUAGES (BLISS, PICTOGRAM ...)

Each of these adaptations require special knowledge.

The challenge is to establish and smoothen the cooperation between the people who know the needs of the target group and the ones who know how to make really good literature!



COMMON GOAL: MAKE LITERATURE!

In Norway we work with all these adaptations within the same organisation.

Common goal: Make sure that books suitable for anyone are being made by the very best authors, illustrators and publishers.



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FURTHER ADVICE ON HOW TO ADAPT

We collaborate with writers, illustrators and publishers, giving them financial support and advise on how to adapt the books.

To get a better understanding of how to adapt for different target groups, we have developed a handbook for “book workers”. Available in English and Japanese!



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GATHER EVERY PART OF THE BOOK CHAIN

Count 20 organisations representing authors, publishers, libraries and target groups. Make every part of the book chain responsible.

Work in all areas - from idea to product, information, sale and library services. Ensure flow of information, competence and ownership to make books for everyone.



VISIT US AT WWW.LESERSOKERBOK.NO

BOKSOK.NO

After going through all this effort adapting the books in the right way:
A big challenge is to make it possible for each reader to actually find the right book.

Our internet search guide: **www.boksok.no**

Cross out how the book should be adapted,
Choose age, subject, some target groups etc.
Find all suitable books, and which libraries that have them
or where to buy them.


Further guiding and advice: Libraries!



FIND THE BOOKS AT WWW.BOKSOK.NO



LITT Å LESE

 Skjønnlitteratur Faglitteratur Tegneserie Ny i Norge

STORSKRIFT

PUNKTSKRIFT & FØLEBILDER

ENKELT INNHOLD

TEGNSPRÅK & NMT

BLISS & PIKTOGRAM

Du har søkt etter: Skjønnlitteratur

Antall treff: 179

Her finner du skjønnlitteratur der språket ikke står i veien for innholdet. Dette er bøker med grafisk oppsett, setningsstruktur og ordvalg som gjør dem mer tilgjengelige.

 Vis kun bøker støttet av Leser søker bok

SJANGER:

- Prosa
- Dikt
- Faglitteratur
- Dokumentar/ Fakta
- Andre sjangre

EKSTRA:

- Mange bilder
- Lydbok

ALDER:

- Barn
- Ungdom
- Voksne

EMNE:

- Krim/Spenning
- Eventyr
- Humor
- Historie/samfunn
- Kjærlighet
- Hus/hjem/hage
- Mat/Helse
- Sport
- Natur
- Mennesker i mellom
- Annet

SPI

- Ny
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