

Little Read 2013: *Rules* by Cynthia Lord

Born That Way? A Look at Genetics
Content Area: Science
NC SCOS or Common Core Objective(s): 5.L.1 Understand how structures and system of organisms (to include the human body) perform functions necessary for life. 5.L.3 Understand why organisms differ from or are similar to their parents based on the characteristics of the organism.
Rationale/Relationship to Text: Helps students understand some of the disabilities described in <i>Rules</i> and their causes.
Instructions/Procedures: Students will pair up and look at a few pre-selected websites to answer questions regarding autism and cerebral palsy.
Materials: A Look at Disabilities in <i>Rules</i> worksheet (below)
Websites: Kids' Health http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&np=282&id=2305 KidsHealth http://kidshealth.org/kid/health_problems/brain/autism.html KidsHealth http://kidshealth.org/kid/health_problems/brain/cerebral_palsy.html National Geographic Kids http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/stories/peopleplaces/downsyndrome/
References: Lord, C. (2006). <i>Rules</i> . New York: Scholastic

Kids' Health

<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&np=282&id=2305>

KidsHealth

http://kidshealth.org/kid/health_problems/brain/autism.html

KidsHealth

http://kidshealth.org/kid/health_problems/brain/cerebral_palsy.html

National Geographic Kids

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/stories/peopleplaces/downsyndrome/>

1. In the book *Rules*, Catherine's brother David has autism. Take a look at the first two websites and list three symptoms (things that you can see that are different about a person) that might mean that a person has autism. Write "Yes" next to the symptoms that David has in the book, and "No" next to the ones he does not have.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2. Jason has cerebral palsy in the book *Rules*, and another child in the waiting room when Catherine goes with her Mom and David for occupational therapy has Down Syndrome. Look at the websites and fill in the chart below on what causes these three disabilities.

Disability	Can you catch it from someone?	Is the disability caused by different genes?	Are there other causes besides genes?	How many people have this disability?
Autism				
Cerebral Palsy				
Down Syndrome				

3. Look at the third website. How does the article say that cerebral palsy is treated? How does this compare to the treatment that Jason is getting in the book?

4. Read the story about Melissa Riggio, a girl who has Down Syndrome, on the fourth website. What do you have in common with her? If you met her, do you think you would be her friend? Why?