

Natalie Hale

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Summary

Since 1992, national and international speaker on the topic of teaching reading to students with Down syndrome and other developmental delays.

Award-winning author, educator, reading consultant for Down syndrome, parent of an adult son with Down syndrome.

Founder of the publisher Special Reads for Special Needs (2000), online at www.specialreads.com. Special Reads provides emergent reader books and materials specifically designed to overcome the developmental challenges of individuals of all ages who are struggling to learn to read, from pre-primer through first grade levels.

Motivating, inspiring, enthusiastic speaker for educator and parent groups for over 25 years, known for presenting workshops which provide on-the-spot knowledge tools that the attendees can immediately put into use.

Private tutor for students with Down syndrome in reading and handwriting, working closely with the needs of both student and parents to ensure progress. Sensitive to the wide range of learning styles of students with developmental delays, and attentive to tailoring a specific learning plan for each student.

Dedicated educator focused on building each student's confidence and success, as well as holding students to firm guidelines, essential to working successfully with non-compliance, distractibility, and behavioral issues.

Highlights

- National speaker
- International speaker
- Award-winning author
- Innovative educator
- Reading program developer
- Workshops for educators, parents
- Reading consultant

Education

University of Texas at Austin, M.M. (1972)
University of Southeastern Louisiana, B.M. (1969)
Loyola University of New Orleans (1968)

Accomplishments

Award-winning author in the field of special needs:

- “*Down Syndrome Parenting 101: Must-Have Advice for Making Your Life Easier.*” Winner of the Best Special Needs Parenting Book 2012, About.com Reader’s Choice Award. Starred review in Library Journal. (Published by Woodbine House)
- “*Managing My Money: Banking and Budgeting Basics,*” Award-Winning Finalist in the Young Adult/Non-Fiction category of the USA “Best Books 2010 Awards, sponsored by USA Book News. (Published by Woodbine House)
- New Book, up for award: “*Whole Child Reading: A Quick-Start Guide to Teaching Students with Down Syndrome and Other Developmental Delays*”

Author:

- “*Oh, Brother! Growing Up With A Special Needs Sibling,*” (American Psychological Association)

Author and Illustrator:

- “*The Little Star’s Journey; A Fairy Tale For Survivors Of All Kinds*” (Behavioral Science Center Inc.)

Publisher

Developed, designed, and produced a line of early reading books and materials for students with Down syndrome and other developmental delays. (Special Reads for Special Needs, www.specialreads.com)

National Speaker:

The National Down Syndrome Congress, National Association for Down Syndrome, National Down Syndrome Society and Down Syndrome Alliances in Action, along with many smaller conferences across the United States.

International Speaker:

Sofia, Bulgaria; India: Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad; Alberta, Canada

Presentations and Workshops

(Last updated February 2019)

Down Syndrome Family Resource Center, Rancho Cucamonga, CA	2019
Down Syndrome Association of Central Florida, Winter Park, FL	2018
Down Syndrome Association of Memphis, Memphis TN	2018
Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area, Danville, CA	2018
Down Syndrome Alliance of the Midlands, Omaha, Nebraska	2018
Down Syndrome Partnership of North Texas, Dallas/Ft.Worth, TX	2017
Down Syndrome Parent Association of Bulgaria, Sofia, Bulgaria	2017

Down Syndrome Affiliates in Action, Cincinnati, OH	2017
Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress, Boston, MA	2016
Down Syndrome Federation of India, Mumbai/Bengalore/Hyderabad	2016
North Bay Down Syndrome Association, Santa Rosa, CA	2015
Canadian Down Syndrome Society, Calgary, AB, Canada	2015
Down Syndrome Federation of India, New Delhi, India	2015
National Down Syndrome Congress Convention, Phoenix, AZ	2015
Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization, Sunrise, FL	2015
Northern New England Down Syndrome Congress, Londonderry, NH	2015
The Arc of Essex County, Livingston, NJ	2015
Mohawk Valley Down Syndrome Support Group, New Hartford, NY	2015
Down Syndrome Association of South Texas, Hallettsville, TX	2015
Down Syndrome Association of South Texas, San Antonio, TX	2015
Down Syndrome Partnership of North Texas, Fort Worth, TX	2015
Down Syndrome Association of the Midlands, Omaha, NE	2014
Manasota Bringing Up Down Syndrome, Lakewood Ranch, FL	2014
National Down Syndrome Society, New York, NY	2014
National Down Syndrome Society (webinar)	2014
Down Syndrome Association of Central Florida, Winter Park, FL	2014
Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL	2014
Down Syndrome Association of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA	2014
Pathfinder Parent Center, Minot, ND	2014
Down Syndrome Association of Northwest Indiana, Highland, IN	2014
Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, OK	2014
New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education, East Brunswick, NJ	2013
Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area, Danville, CA	2013
Down Syndrome Association of Memphis, Memphis, TN	2013
Down Syndrome Group of the Ozarks, Springfield, MO	2013
National Down Syndrome Congress, Denver, CO	2013
International Mosaic Down Syndrome Association, Trenton, OH	2013
Down Syndrome Families Reaching, Influencing, Educating and Networking for Down Syndrome (F.R.I.E.N.D.S.), Dothan, AL	2013
Down Syndrome Affiliates in Action, Cincinnati, OH	2013
National Down Syndrome Conference, Washington, DC	2012
Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area, Danville, CA	2012
Upstate Cerebral Palsy, Utica, NY	2011
Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne, IN	2010
Down Syndrome of Louisville, Louisville, KY	2009
Kennedy-Willis Center on Down Syndrome, Pathfinder Village, Edmeston, NY	2008
Oklahoma State Department of Education, Oklahoma City, OK	2008
Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, OK	2007
Parents of Children with Down Syndrome, Royal Oak, MI	2007
Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH	2007
National Association for Down Syndrome, Wilmette, IL	2006
Eastern Pennsylvania Down Syndrome Center, Trexlertown, PA	2006

Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan, Grand Rapids, MI	2006
Down Syndrome Association of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis, MO	2006
Upside of Downs, Cleveland, OH	2005
National Down Syndrome Society, Chicago, IL	2005
Down Syndrome of Louisville, Louisville, KY	2004
Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne, IN	2003
Up with Downs, Shreveport, LA	2002
	No Records Kept - 1994-2001
The ARC of Ohio, Cincinnati, OH	1993
Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH	1992