

# **A Walk in the Words**

## **Written and Illustrated By: Hudson Talbott**

**Synopsis:** Through a story from his own childhood, Hudson Talbott shares the challenges--and ultimately the rewards--of being a non-mainstream kind of learner.

**Suggested Reading Date:** October (Learning Disability Month) or Children's Book Week (Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>).

### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Have a discussion and celebrate the strengths that the main character brings to his learning such as perseverance, creativity, determination, joy and curiosity and how they helped him succeed as a learner.
- Brainstorm learning tasks that can be overwhelming and talk about strategies to address them such as visualization, breaking things into chunks, or figuring out a timeline.
- Share learning support tools such as databases and ebooks with reading supports and audiobooks.
- Research or discuss the people in the "Slow Reader Hall of Fame" illustration. This might be a good time to introduce a database or online encyclopedia.
- Celebrate different ways of telling stories (storytelling, text, illustrations, movies etc.)
- Introduce the Schneider Family Book Awards (this was a 2022 Honor Book).
- Have students choose and illustrate a word like Talbott does on the 2<sup>nd</sup> page.

### **Related Websites:**

- Author/illustrator Website: [https://www.hudsonalbott.com/1/menu2.html#e\\_6](https://www.hudsonalbott.com/1/menu2.html#e_6)
- Interview with Hudson Talbott (aimed more for adults but has some good kid-friendly bits): <https://youtu.be/fs4aPpfgZbo>
- Schneider Family Book Awards Home: <https://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/schneider-family-book-award>

### **Text to Text Connections:**

*How to Solve a Problem: the Rise (and Falls) of a Rock Climbing Champion* by Ashima Shiraishi

*Above the Rim* by Jen Bryant

*My Very Favorite Book in the Whole Wide World* by Malcolm Mitchell

*Back to Front and Upside Down* by Claire Alexander

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