

**Children:** *Lingokids*.

[background music]

**Speaker 1:** I love to read a good book before bedtime. I used to be able to just pick up a book and start reading. Now, I'm older, and so are my eyes. Now, I need a special pair of glasses. These glasses help my vision so I can see the words clearly. *Lingokids* listeners, do you know anyone that needs glasses, or maybe you wear glasses yourself?

**Cowley:** I wear glasses. I've worn them since I was in preschool.

**Lisa:** My mom and dad wear glasses.

**Speaker 1:** I see. *Lingokids* listeners, would you like to hear a story about what happens when Billy loses his glasses?

**Elliot:** Yes.

**Lisa:** Yes.

**Speaker 1:** Welcome to storytime by *Lingokids*, where we discover fascinating facts about the world around us and the fun of play learning. Join Elliot, Cowley, and Lisa's search for Billy's missing glasses and learn a few things about abilities, disabilities, and how we all need help with one thing or another. Oh, no, Billy, you can't find your glasses? Don't worry, we'll look for them.

**Elliot:** Actually, I'm glad Billy has lost his glasses.

**Speaker 1:** Why is that, Elliot?

**Elliot:** Because he looks funny.

**Speaker 1:** Oh, Elliot, that's not a nice thing to say. How does that make you feel, Billy? I can see why that would make you feel sad, Billy.

**Elliot:** Glasses make Billy look different.

**Speaker 1:** We're all different in some ways, just like we're all the same in lots of ways, too.

**Elliot:** Yes, well, I don't need glasses.

**Speaker 1:** That's true, but one day you might, and that's okay. Everyone needs help in one way or another.

**Lisa:** Like when I broke my leg. I needed crutches to help me walk.

**Cowley:** I need my teddy bear to help me fall asleep and not get scared.

**Elliot:** Sometimes, I need help, too. I'm good at counting to 10, but I need help in learning my ABCs.

**Speaker 1:** You make an important point, Elliot.

**Elliot:** I do?

**Speaker 1:** Yes. We all have different abilities, things we can do easily, and also, things that we need help with. *Lingokids* listeners, can you think of some things that you can do easily, and other things that you might need help with?

[music]

I'm sure you all came up with a good list.

**Lisa:** I'm good at singing, but I need help playing piano.

**Elliot:** I'm good at drawing faces, but I need help drawing noses and hands.

**Speaker 1:** That's right, Billy. You're good at inventing all sorts of cool things, but you need your glasses to help you see what you're doing.

**Lisa:** I have a neighbor who can hardly see at all. She has a dog who helps her see.

**Elliot:** How does a dog help her see?

**Speaker 1:** Seeing-eye dogs are specially trained dogs that help guide people who are blind. They help people move around by letting them know when things are in their way, like other people, trees, or street curbs. They even help people cross the street.

**Elliot:** Cool.

**Speaker 1:** Want to know something really cool? Even though blind people can't see, many have an excellent sense of hearing and smell. Often, having a disability in one area means that people might be even better in different areas.

**Elliot:** I have a friend you can't hear well, but she's amazing at painting beautiful pictures.

**Speaker 1:** Exactly. Does she use hearing aids?

**Elliot:** Oh, so that's what's in her ears. I was wondering what they were.

**Speaker 1:** Yes, lots of people use hearing aids to help them hear better. They are like glasses for your ears. Some people can't hear at all. If you can't hear at all, then we say you are deaf.

**Elliot:** Really? How do they listen?

**Speaker 1:** Many people who are deaf can read people's lips to understand what they're saying. They also have a language using their hands to communicate. Instead of talking, they use their hands to make signs. It's called sign language.

**Lisa:** That's really creative.

**Speaker 1:** Oops, sorry, Billy. You would like to be creative now but you still need help finding your glasses.

**Lisa:** Uh, Billy, is that a new necklace you're wearing? It looks like--

**Speaker 1:** [laughs] Your glasses. You got a new chain for your glasses to hang around your neck so you wouldn't lose them, and you ended up losing your glasses.

[laughter]

**Elliot:** Billy, I have something to say to you. I'm sorry I said your glasses make you look different and funny. They look great, but mostly, I'm happy they help you.

**Speaker 1:** Well said, Elliot. No matter what abilities or disabilities we have, what we can or can't do, or what makes us the same or different, it's most important we treat each other with kindness and respect. Thank you, *Lingokids* listeners for being such amazing listeners. I hope you enjoyed the story. If you are ready for interactive play learning time, explore our Lingokids app. It offers fun and educational songs and games to help kids ages two and older learn and develop important skills such as communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. That's the power of play learning. See you in our next episode.

[music]

**[00:06:24] [END OF AUDIO]**