

## **Book encourages special-needs children to read along.**

Written by Farid Hamzah  
Translated by Sharifah Nabilah

Helping dyslexic children and the visually impaired read with ease.

That is one of the objectives of local writer, Hidayah Amin, in her efforts to publish her latest children's book.

The 32-page long English book entitled *Hang Nadim and the Garfish* uses fonts that facilitate reading for children with dyslexia, low vision or visual impairment.

Hidayah, 42 years old, who had previously written a children's book entitled *The Mango Tree*, says that only 200 copies of the book have been printed, making it limited edition.

"We are not sure how this book will be received. Therefore we made the decision to limit the printing of this book," says Hidayah.

This book that was launched at the National Library Building yesterday took three months to produce.

According to Hidayah, this includes the time taken to conduct research about reading methods for dyslexic children.

"These methods currently exist in many Western countries. I wish to see special-needs children reading this book with other children," Hidayah remarks.

According to her, this book tells the story of the popular folklore, *Singapura Dilanggar Todak* or Singapore Attacked by Garfishes.

This book that received support from the National Arts Council (NAC) encourages solidarity between special-needs children and other children.

Before this, Hidayah's book *The Mango Tree* won the 2015 Hedwig Anuar Children's Book award and the Grand Prize in the 2015 Samsung Kids Time Author's Award (SKTAA).

The *Hang Nadim and the Garfish Book* is priced at \$45 a piece and can be ordered via email through [helang.books@gmail.com](mailto:helang.books@gmail.com)