

# Making Scientific Content Accessible

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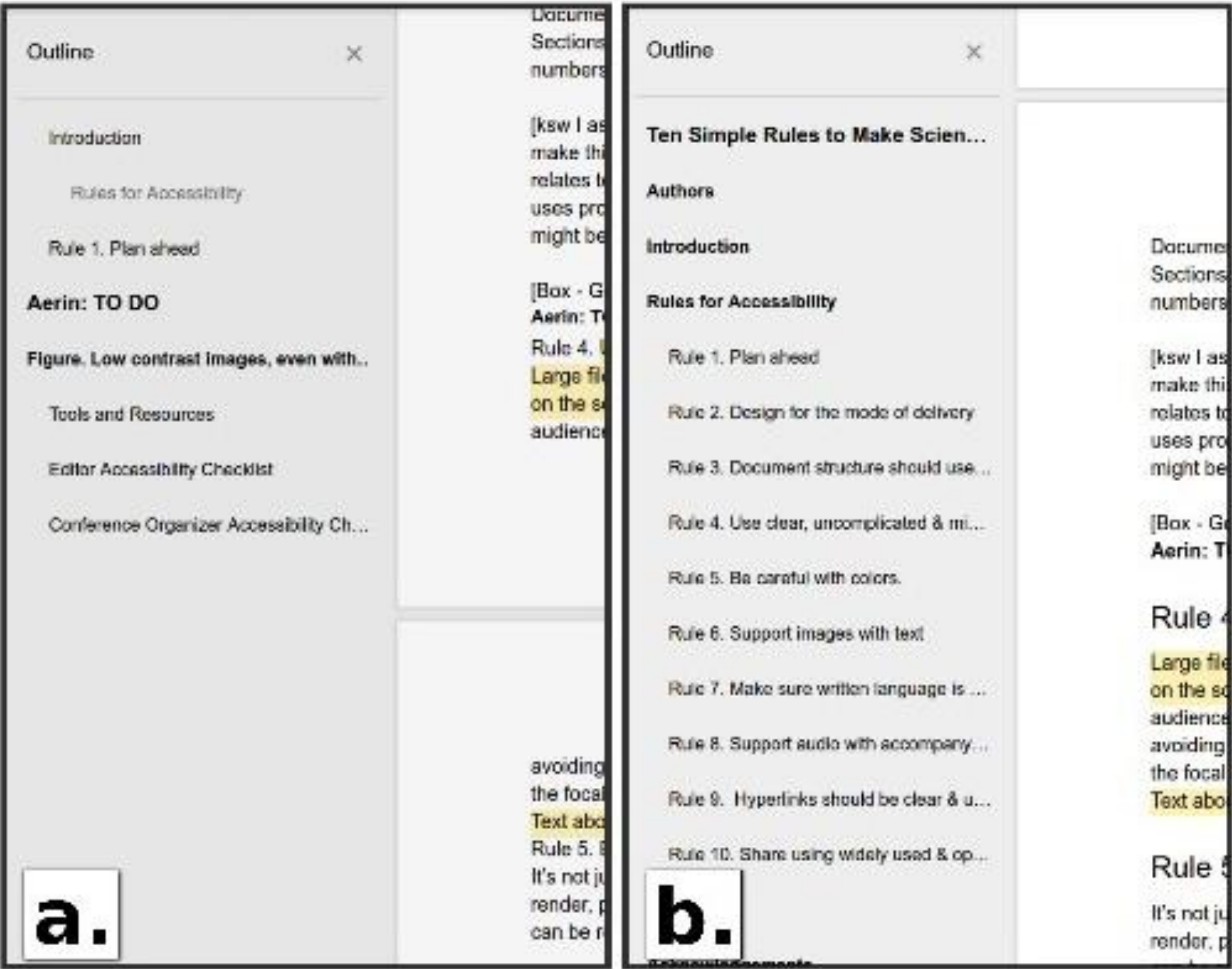
## Accessible presentations are not a panacea, but. . .

Papers and posters alone will not fix structural barriers to full inclusion and equity for people with disabilities in the sciences, but they are a concrete step in the right direction.

More information and resources for creating accessible presentations is available as part of the preprint (*DOI above*).

## Step 1: Make accessible your default mindset

## Use the right markup

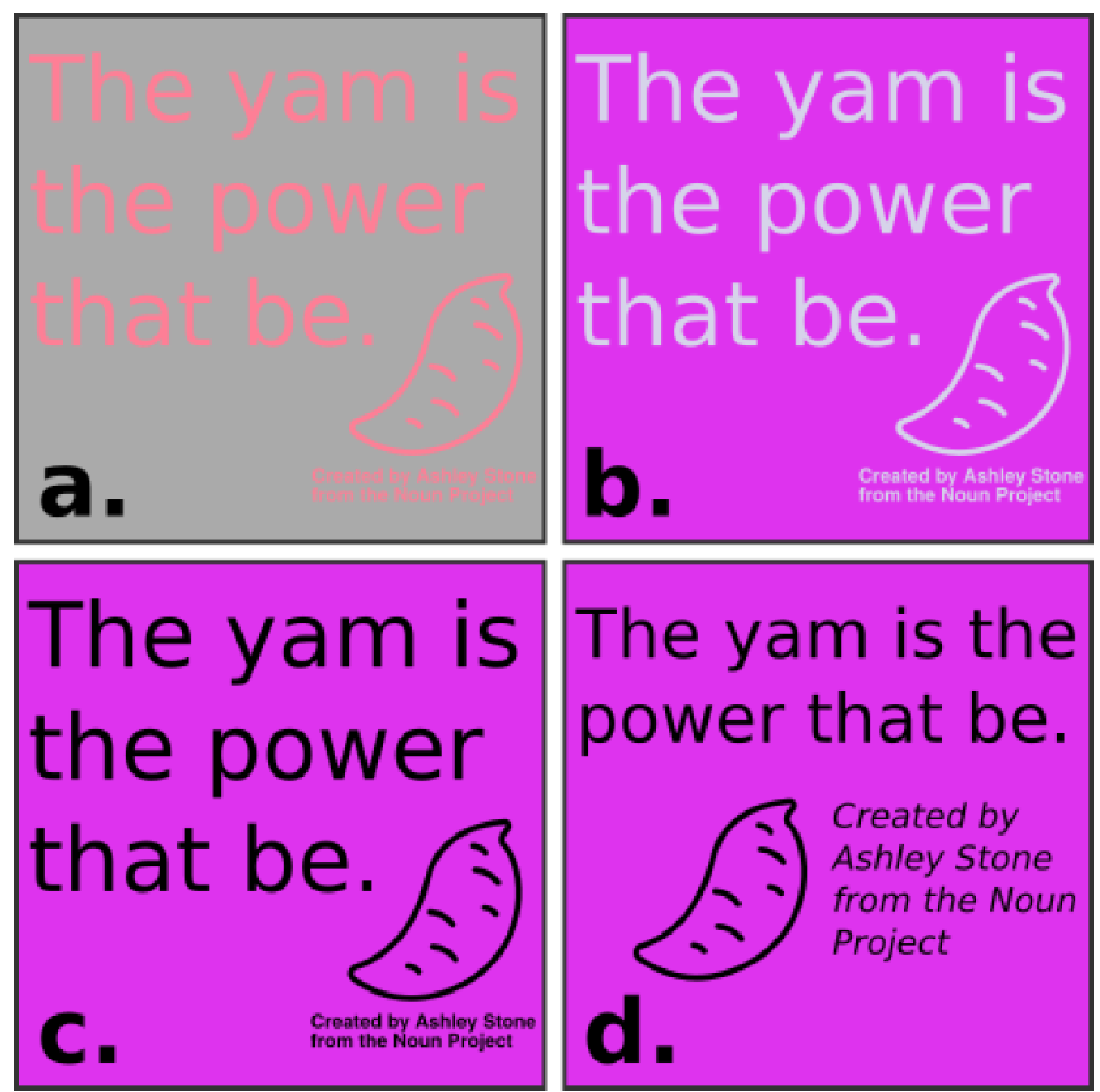


## Design for the mode of delivery

Table 1. Key design elements for accessibility in presenting material for a broader audience. Note that attention to accessibility elements for text, figures and section headings are required for all presentation types.

Presentation Type	Text	Figures	Headings and sections	Visual cues within figures	Clear audio
Poster	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Oral presentation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Paper	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No

## Choose colors carefully



## Use clear and simple figures and graphics

## Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the advocates who continue to push us to act as better role models in recognizing and accommodating the wide variety of audiences who are interested, engaged, and active in the scientific enterprise. We also like to acknowledge the leadership and contributions of organizations, like the Institute for Accessible Science and Science Education for Students with Disabilities, and collaborative publications, like “From College to Careers: Fostering Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in STEM” published by the American Academy for the Advancement of Science, on this important topic. SJG is supported through NSF Grants NSF-1541002, NSF-1550855, NSF-1241868, NSF-1550707. AJ is supported by a Liber Ero Fellowship.



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## Write clearly

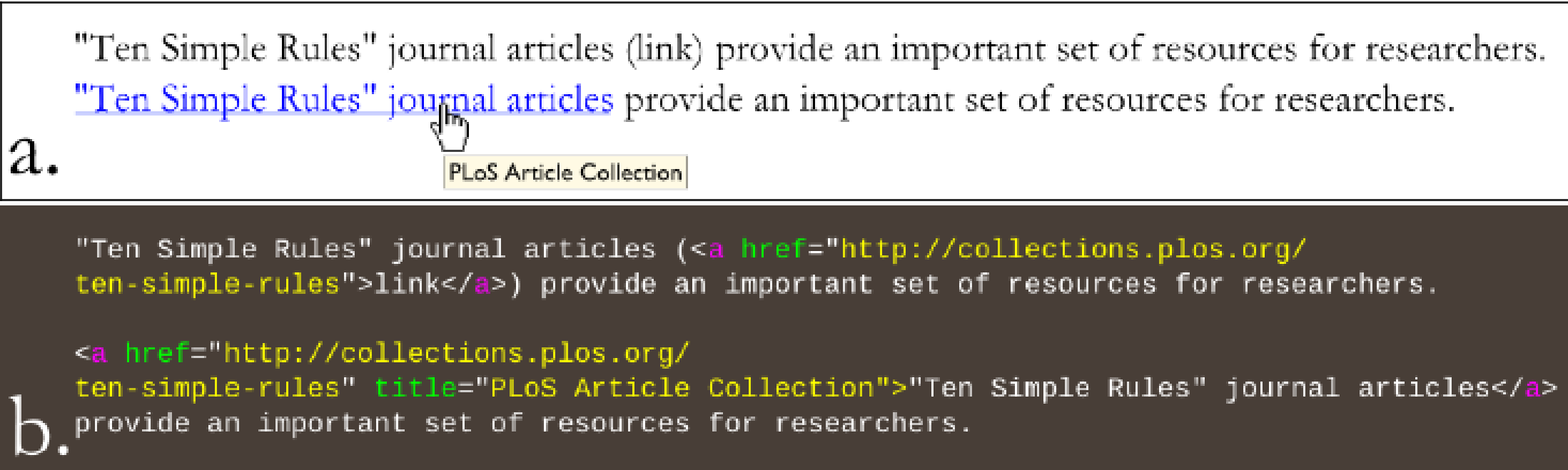
## Accessibility is imperative for inclusion

Each year, scientists present their work at conferences and other public forums and use a range of illustrative materials to help communicate the science more effectively. Much of this accompanying material is then published or posted online. Improving communication is critical because it facilitates collaboration with colleagues, policy makers, and key stakeholders and helps us share our science with broader publics. However, in preparing these supporting materials, one audience group has consistently been forgotten: people with sensory disabilities. People with vision and hearing disabilities make up 19% of the US population but only 4.5% of all doctoral recipients in 2014 (the most recent reporting year from the NSF). Neglecting the needs of these individuals in public scientific presentations creates a considerable barrier to their participation in the sciences.

## Support images with text

## Use audio with text too

## Make sure hyperlinks are clear & unambiguous



## Stick to widely used & open file formats