

Inquiry Project: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Always

Unique

Totally

Interesting

SOMETIMES

MYSTERIOUS

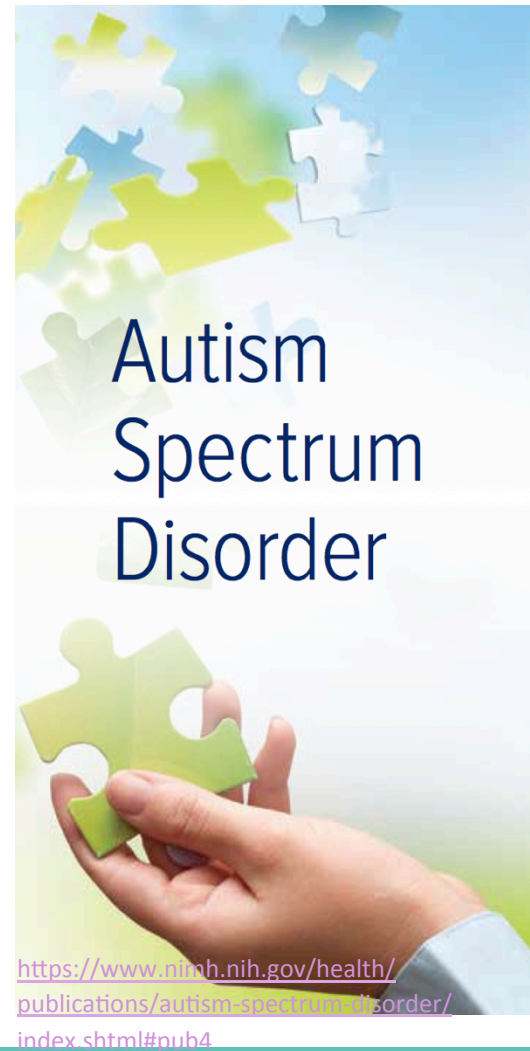


<http://www.assumptionns.com/autism-preschool.html>

By Lindsey Blackman

Why I Chose Autism Spectrum Disorder

- ❖ Mentoring teacher said we will have students in our class with ASD
- ❖ Want to learn more about ASD to support my student teaching and overall knowledge
- ❖ Personal connection (friend's sibling, previous campers)



What is Autism Spectrum Disorder?

- **Deficits in social communication and social interaction across multiple contexts**

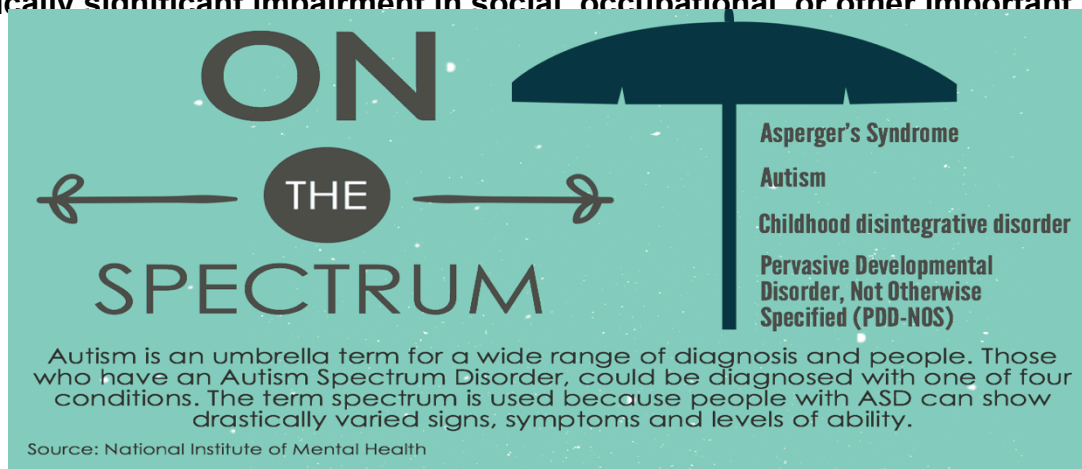
Ex: Failure to initiate or respond to social interactions; poorly integrated verbal and nonverbal communication; abnormalities in eye contact and body language or deficits in understanding; absence of interest in peers

- **Restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, or activities**

Ex: Repetitive motor movements; inflexible adherence to routines; strong attachment with unusual objects; adverse response to specific sounds or textures

- **Symptoms cause clinically significant impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning**

(American Psychiatric Association, 2013)



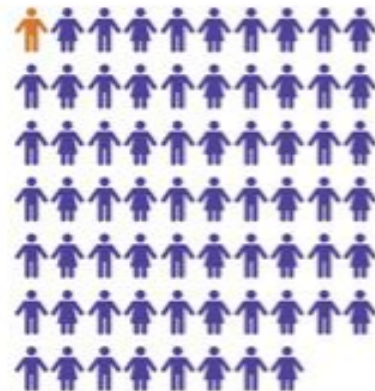
[Autism Spectrum Disorder video](#)

“Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is now defined by the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnosis and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) as a **single disorder** that includes disorders that were previously considered separate — autism, Asperger's syndrome, childhood disintegrative disorder and pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified ([Mayo Clinic](#)).”

Who Does ASD Affect?

- ❖ About 1 in 68 children (study based off of 8-year olds)
 - 1 in 42 boys
 - 1 in 189 girls
- ❖ Occurs in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups
- ❖ Boys are 4.5 times more likely to be identified with ASD than girls
- ❖ No evidence specifically but only thing research

NUMBER OF CHILDREN
IDENTIFIED WITH ASD



1 in 68

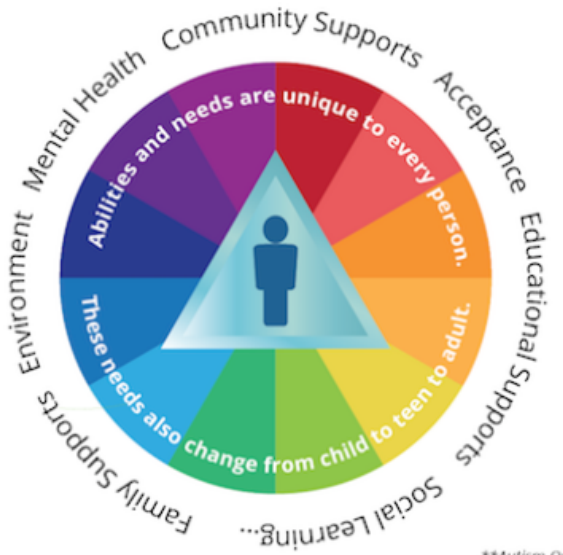


U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Treatment and Support

There is no cure for ASD but there are therapies and treatments that can help increase a child's ability to function.

- ❖ Communication therapies ([read more about speech therapy here](#))
- ❖ Family therapies ([read more about family therapy here](#))
- ❖ Special diets ([read more about diets here](#))
- ❖ Applied Behavior Analysis therapies ([click here for video example](#))
- ❖ Occupational Therapies - especially Sensory-based ([click here for video example](#))
- ❖ Medications - to help control symptoms associated with ASD ([read more about medications here](#))



**Autism Ontario, 2015

Educational Strategies/Tips for Support



<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/autism-top-five-tips-poster-6293620>

- ❖ Individualized Educational Program
- ❖ Establish routines in the classroom
 - Write them down
 - Take still pictures of the task
 - Video tape them
 - Provide warning if routine change is happening
- ❖ Avoid using idioms
- ❖ Get to know the child
- ❖ Transition Support

Sources

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Images:

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<http://autismontario.novosolutions.net/print.asp?id=0&SID=>

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/autism-top-five-tips-poster-6293620>