

RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

Listed below are resources that are designed to assist both individuals with developmental disabilities and those who care for them. These resources are divided into six sections:

- Links to the websites of autism-related organizations.
- Autism-Related Facebook Groups.
- A selection of “The Best Autism Apps” (published in Autism Parenting Magazine in February 2023).
- Titles of autism-related ebooks that can be borrowed through the Library’s hoopla app. Have questions about hoopla? Go to:
<http://theoceancountylibrary.org/sites/default/files/Hoopla-Instructions.pdf>
- Booklist curated by Ocean County Library staff.
- Resources for coping with COVID.

PART 1:
AUTISM-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

ADULT AUTISM DIAGNOSIS

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Autism Speaks	Offers a Tool Kit that contains information about how to get a diagnosis, therapies that are available, state and federal services, tips for self-advocacy, and more.	https://www.autismspeaks.org/tool-kit/adult-autism-diagnosis-tool-kit

AUTISM RESEARCH

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Organization for Autism Research (OAR)	Funds Studies on Subjects Such as Education, Communication, Parent and Teacher Training, Social Skills, Employment, etc.	https://researchautism.org

CAREGIVER AND INDIVIDUAL WITH DD SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Autism New Jersey	Information About Autism, Education and Training, Caregiver Support and Referral to Specialists	www.autismnj.org Hotline: 1-800-428-8476.
Canine Companions	Service Dogs	www.canine.org
The Color of Autism Foundation	Provides Support to African American Families with Autism	www.thecolorofautism.org
Mom2Mom Helpline	Peer support to caregivers.	www.mom2mom.us.com Hotline: 1-877-914-6662.
New Jersey Autism Warriors	Facebook group that provides peer support to caregivers.	
Ocean County Family Support Organization	Peer support, family training.	www.oceanfso.org/welcome

EMPLOYMENT TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Allaire Community Farm	Provides Pre-Employment Training, Therapy Farm Animals	www.allairecommunityfarm.org
Community Options	Employment Training for High School Students, Employment, Housing	www.comop.org

Disability Allies	Focuses on Employment Training for Adults with DD, and Connects Young Adults with and without DD Through Social Events	www.disabilityalliesforyou.org
New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	Employment Assistance	Career Services Vocational Rehabilitation Services (nj.gov)
Waters & Sims	Provides Supported Employment Services	www.watersandsims.com

GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
The Americans with Disabilities Act	The ADA Law, first enacted in 1990, prohibits discrimination based on disability.	www.ada.gov
New Jersey ABLE	ABLE accounts enable those with disabilities and their caregivers to save private funds to supplement benefits provided through Social Security and Medicaid.	www.savewithable.com/nj/home.html
New Jersey Department of Health	The New Jersey Autism Registry enables families to be referred to organizations that will assist them.	Department of Health Autism The New Jersey Autism Registry (nj.gov)

New Jersey DHS - Division of Disability Services	Housing Resources for Individuals with Disabilities	Department of Human Services NJ Housing Resources for People With Disabilities (state.nj.us)
New Jersey DHS - Division of Disability Services	Information on Education and Training Opportunities for Those with Disabilities, Families, and Service Providers	Department of Human Services Education and Training (state.nj.us)
New Jersey DHS - Division of Disability Services	Resources for Financial Assistance	Department of Human Services Financial Assistance (state.nj.us)
New Jersey DHS – Division of Disability Services	Transportation Services for Individuals with Disabilities	Department of Human Services Transportation Resources for NJ Residents with Disabilities (state.nj.us)
New Jersey DOE – Office of the Special Education Ombudsman	Provides Information and Support to Students, Caregivers, and Educators Regarding Special Education Rights and Services	NJ Ombudsman - About Our Office
New Jersey Family Care	Health Insurance for Those Who Don't Have Employer Insurance	https://njfamilycare.dhs.state.nj.us
New Jersey Office of the Ombudsman for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and Their Families	Works Directly with Individuals with Disabilities and Their Caregivers to Provide Essential Services	https://nj.gov/treasury/njombudsman

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
The Art of Autism	Provides a forum for displaying and promoting the works of autistic artists, film producers, singers, and writers	https://the-art-of-autism.com

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Autism New Jersey	Information and Referral, Public Policy	www.autismnj.org Hotline: 1-800-428-8476
New Jersey DOE – Office of the Special Education Ombudsman	Provides Information and Support to Students, Caregivers, and Educators Regarding Special Education Rights and Services	NJ Ombudsman - About Our Office
New Jersey Office of the Ombudsman for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and Their Families	Works Directly with Individuals with Disabilities and Their Caregivers to Provide Essential Services	https://nj.gov/treasury/njombudsman

Ocean County DHS - Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council	Consisting of Parents, Service Providers, and Others, CIACC Oversees Behavioral Health Services in Ocean County	<u>Children's InterAgency Coordinating Council Ocean County Government</u>
Ocean County DHS – Office for Individuals with Disabilities	Information and Referral	<u>Office for Individuals with Disabilities Ocean County Government</u>
Ocean County Health Department	Information and Referral	<u>www.ochd.org</u>
SPAN Parent Advocacy Network	Information and Referral, Caregiver Support and Resource Center	<u>www.spanadvocacy.org</u>
Toms River Mayor's Advisory Committee on the Americans with Disabilities Act	Advocacy and Assistance	<u>Mayor's Advisory Committee on the ADA Toms River Township, NJ</u>
Toms River Mayor's Advisory Committee on Developmental Disabilities	Advocacy and Assistance	<u>Developmental Disabilities Committee Toms River Township, NJ</u>

LEGAL SERVICES

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Community Health Law Project	Legal and advocacy services	www.chlp.org
Freeman Law Offices	Special Education Law, Estate Planning, Adult Services	www.freemanlawoffices.com
Hinkle Prior & Fischer	Special Education Law, Estate Planning	www.hinkle1.com
Mack Rosenberg Law, LLC	Assists Families in Obtaining Health Insurance Coverage for Disability Services	https://mackrosenberglaw.com
The Matus Law Group	Special Education Law, Estate Planning	www.matuslaw.com
Sussan Greenwald, & Wesler	Special Education Law, Estate Planning	www.sgwlawfirm.com

MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Children's Specialized Hospital	Developmental Pediatricians, Neurologists, Psychiatrists	www.childrens-specialized.org
Children's Wellness & Developmental Center	Developmental Evaluations, Holistic Evaluations, Nutritional Counseling, Individual and Family Counseling	www.cwdcenter.com

Community Medical Center	Autism-Friendly ER	Autism-Friendly Emergency Department Community Medical Center (rwjbh.org)
Developmental Pediatrics of Central NJ	Developmental Pediatrics	www.developmentalpediatricsnj.com
KidZdent	Special Needs Dentistry	www.kidzdent.com
The Milestones Center	Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics	www.milestones.center
NJ Family Care	Health Insurance for Those Who Don't Have Employer Insurance	https://njfamilycare.dhs.state.nj.us
NeurAbilities Healthcare	Diagnostic Services, Neurological Testing, Developmental Pediatricians, ABA Therapy	https://neurabilities.com/
NJ InCK (New Jersey Integrated Care for Kids)	Healthcare Management, Including Behavior Services, For Those Who Have Insurance Through NJ Family Care	https://njinck.org
Ocean Pediatric Dental Associates	Special Needs Dentistry	www.oceanpediatricdental.com

MULTISERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Bancroft	Services for All Ages: Diagnostic Assessments, ABA Therapy, Assistive Technology, Severe Behavior Day Treatment Program, Residential Treatment	www.bancroft.org
Community Access Unlimited	Services for All Ages: ABA Therapy, In-Home Respite, Support Coordination, Day Programs, Housing, Employment Services	www.caunj.org
Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health	Services for All Ages: Diagnostic Assessments, Private Schools, Transition to Adult Services, Housing, Day Programs	www.devereux.org
Easterseals NJ	Summer Camp for Ages 6+, Behavioral Health Services, Residential Services, Day Programs, Supported Employment	www.easterseals.com/nj
Eden Autism	Services for All Ages: School for Ages 3 – 21; Home-Based ABA and Speech Therapy, Adult Employment Training and Housing	www.edenautism.org

Enable	Services for Adults: Housing, Day Programs, In-Home Supports, Employment Training	https://enablenj.org/
Jewish Service for the Developmentally Disabled	Services for Adults: Residential Services, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy	www.jsddmetrowest.org
Ladacin Network	Services for All Ages: Early Intervention, Child Care, School, Therapy, Day Programs, Vocational Therapy, Housing	www.ladacin.org
MOCEANS Center for Independent Living	Independent Living, Support Coordination, Youth Transition, Education & Advocacy	https://moceanscil.org
New Jersey Institute for Disabilities	Services for All Ages: Early Intervention, School, Day Programs, Employment Services, Residential Services, In-Home Supports, Life Skills Development	www.njid.org
PCDI	Services for All Ages: Early Intervention, School for Ages 3 – 21, Adult Life Skills Program, Housing	https://pcdi.org/
SERV Behavioral Health System, Inc.	Services for All Ages: In-Home Services, Vocational Training, Residential Services	www.servbhs.org
21 Plus, Inc.	Services for Adults: Residential Services, Vocational Services, Supported Employment	www.21plus.org

NEW JERSEY STATE AND OCEAN COUNTY SERVICES

If you live in Ocean County and you have concerns about the development of your child who is under the age of 3, contact the Ocean County Special Child Health Services and Early Intervention Program at <https://www.ochd.org/maternal-child-health-services> or by calling 732-806-3930.

If you live in New Jersey, but outside of Ocean County, and have concerns about the development of your child who is under the age of 3, contact the state's Early Intervention Services at <https://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/eis/for-families> or by calling 1-888-653-4463.

For behavior therapy and respite for children under the age of 21, contact PerformCare (the New Jersey Children's System of Care) at www.performcarenj.org or by calling 1-877-652-7624.

To inquire about home and community-based services for individuals 21 and older, contact the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) at www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd or by calling 1-800-832-9173.

To download the NJ Office on Autism's publication **Autism: A Family Guide to Navigating the NJ Service Systems for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Other Developmental Disabilities**, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/Autism-A-Family-Guide>

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Ability Advocates of NJ	Transition from Children's System of Care to Adult Services, Support Coordination for Adults Through the DDD	www.abilityadvocatesofnj.org
Assisting Hands Home Care	Services for Adults Through the DDD,, Community-Based Support, In-Home Care, Respite	https://assistinghands.com/29/newjersey/monmouth/services/developmental-disability-services
A Bright Tomorrow	Support Coordination for Adults through the DDD	http://abrighttomorrow.org
A Care Connection of New Jersey	Support Coordination for Adults through the DDD	www.accofnj.org
Equal Opportunity Support Services	Support Coordination for Adults through the DDD	https://www.equalopportunitiesupportservices.org
Ocean Partnership for Children	Care Management and Service Planning for Children with Behavioral and Emotional Challenges <i>(accessible through PerformCare)</i>	www.oceanpartnership.org
Owen Health Care	Children's Behavior Therapy through PerformCare, Support Coordination for Adults through the DDD, Respite, Summer Camp, Supported Employment	www.owenhc.com

PrimeTime Center	Adult Day Programs (Life Skills, Recreation, Social Skills, Vocational Skills, and More) (<i>admission through DDD</i>)	www.primetimecenter.org
Prism Support Services	Support Coordination for Adults Through the DDD	https://prismsupportservices.com
SPWA Services	Support Coordination for Adults through the DDD	www.spwaservices.org

PUBLIC POLICY

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Autism NJ	Public Policy	www.autismnj.org
New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities	Public Policy	https://njcdd.org

SAFETY

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Ocean County Sheriff's Office	Safety	Ocean County Sheriff's Department

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION RESOURCES

(refer to “Multiservice Organizations” for additional schools)

<u>SCHOOL NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
The Alliance of Private Special Education Schools of North Jersey	An Organization Consisting of Private Special Education Schools in North and Central New Jersey. Provides a School Directory, and Offers Advocacy Support & Resources	https://specialeducationalliancenj.org
The Alpha School	School for Ages 5 to 21	www.alphaschool.com
ASAH	A Nonprofit Organization Consisting of Private Special Education Schools in New Jersey. Offers a Toll-Free Parent Assistance Line, a Private School Placement Toolkit, and a School Directory	https://www.asah.org
The Center School	School for Ages 5 to 21	https://www.thecenterschool.com
Children’s Center of Monmouth County	School for Ages 3 to 21	www.ccprograms.com
Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center	School for Ages 3 to 21; Adult Program for Ages 21+ That Focuses on Employment Training	https://dddc.rutgers.edu
The Gateway School	School for Ages 5 to 21	www.thegatewayschool.com
The Harbor School	School for Ages 5 to 21	www.harborschool.com
Hawkswood School	School for Ages 3 to 21	www.hawkswoodschool.net

New Jersey DOE – Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities (In-State)	List of Private Special Education Schools That Have Been Approved by the State of New Jersey.	https://homeroom5.doe.state.nj.us/apssd
New Jersey DOE – Office of the Special Education Ombudsman	Provides Information and Support to Students, Caregivers, and Educators Regarding Special Education Rights and Services	NJ Ombudsman - About Our Office
Ocean County College	Education (Disability Services) and Summer Camp	Disability Services Ocean County College NJ
The Shore Center for Students with Autism	School for Ages 3 to 21	www.theshorecenter.org

SOCIAL/RECREATION

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
By Design Social Skills	Social Skills Groups and Counseling for All Age Groups	www.socialskillsnj.com
Camp Jaycee	Summer Camp for Adults with DD	www.campjaycee.org
Camp Fatima	Free Summer Camp for Children with DD; Free Sleepaway Weekends for Adults with DD	https://campfatimanj.org

Daniel's Music Foundation	Music Classes (Including Free Online and In-Person Group Classes) for People with Disabilities	https://www.danielsmusic.org
Easterseals NJ	Summer Camp for Individuals Ages 6+ with Disabilities	www.easterseals.com/nj
Encouraging Kids Family Resource Center	After school, Evening, and Weekend Programs for Students with Disabilities.	Family Center - Encouraging Kids Family Resource Center
The Friendship Circle of Central Jersey	Social and Respite Programs	https://fcnj.com
HorseSense Therapeutic Center	Equine Therapy	https://www.horsesensenj.com
Mosaic Music Therapy	Music Therapy	www.mosaicmusictherapy.com
Music for Autism	Free Concerts for Individuals with DD and their caregivers (<i>in-person AND virtual</i>)	www.musicforautism.org
Ocean County YMCA	Adaptive swimming and exercise	https://ocymca.org
POAC Autism Services	Recreational and Support Services, Family Training	www.poac.net

Rising Treetops at Oakhurst	Summer Camp, Respite, After School Program	www.risingtreetops.org
Special People United to Ride (SPUR)	Equine Therapy	https://spuronline.org
We Rock the Spectrum Kid's Gym	Indoor Play	www.werockthespectrumwaretown.com

THERAPY (ABA, COGNITIVE BEHAVIOR THERAPY, DIR/FLOORTIME, OCCUPATIONAL, PHYSICAL, SPEECH)

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
Autism Spectrum Diagnosis & Counseling	Evaluation and Diagnosis, Cognitive Behavior Therapy, Social Skills Groups	Home » Autism Spectrum Diagnostics & Consulting (autismdiagnostics.com)
Bierman Autism Centers	Diagnostic Assessments, ABA, Speech, OT	www.biermanautism.com
Brain Builders	ABA, OT, Speech, Social Skills Groups	www.brainbuildersnj.org
Brett DiNovi & Associates	ABA Therapy	www.brettdassociates.com
Caring Family Community Services	ABA Therapy	www.caringfamily.org
Children's Specialized Hospital	Speech, OT, PT, Feeding Therapy	www.childrens-specialized.org

Connect Plus Therapy	ABA Therapy, Social Skills Groups, After School Programs, Parent Training	www.connectplustherapy.com
The Family Resource Network (includes the affiliate Autism Family Services of New Jersey)	ABA Therapy	www.familyresourcenetwork.org
Graham Behavior Services	ABA Therapy	www.grahambehaviorservices.com
Helping Hands Family	ABA Therapy	www.hhfamily.com
Hybridge Learning Group	ABA, Speech, OT	www.hybridgelearning.com
Kaleidoscope ABA Therapy Services	ABA Therapy	www.kfsaba.org
Links ABA Therapy Solutions	ABA Therapy	www.linksaba.com
Mastermind Behavior Services	ABA Therapy	www.mastermindbehavior.com
Positive Development	DIR/Floortime	www.positivedevelopment.com
Professional Therapy Associates	ABA Therapy, Speech, OT, PT, Social Skills	www.ptasensorygym.com
Proud Moments ABA	ABA Therapy	www.proudmomentsaba.com
The Puzzle Place Center for Autism	Intensive Early Intervention, Speech, and OT for young children	www.thepuzzleplace.org
Rainbow ABA	ABA Therapy	www.rainbowtherapy.org

Seashore Pediatric Therapy Center	Speech, OT, PT	https://seashoreptc.com
Sensory Playground	ABA, Speech, OT, PT, Music Therapy	www.sensoryplaygroundtherapy.com
Social Behavior Learning Solutions	Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention, School Readiness, Social Skills Groups for young children	www.socialbehaviorlearning.com
Speech Language Associates	Speech Therapy	www.speechlanguageassociates.com
Speech Pathology Solutions, LLC	Speech Therapy	www.speechpathologysolutions.com
Step Up Family Services	ABA Therapy	https://stepupfamilyservices.com
Sunny Days Sunshine Center	ABA, OT, PT, Speech, Social Skills	www.sunnydayssunshinecenter.com
Unlocked Potential	ABA Therapy	www.unlockedpotential.com
Weisman Children's Rehabilitation Hospital	Feeding, OT, PT, Speech	www.weismanchildrens.com

PART 2: AUTISM-RELATED FACEBOOK GROUPS

Autism Parents Support Group
Autism Society Southwest New Jersey Affiliate 532
New Jersey Autism Warriors
NJ Autism Moms
NJ Special Needs Connection
Parent to Parent NJ
Parents of Adults with Developmental Disabilities and Other Support Needs
Parents of Sensory Kids

**PART 3: A SELECTION OF “THE BEST AUTISM APPS”
ACCORDING TO AUTISM PARENTING MAGAZINE (2023)**

The apps listed below are free to download,
although they may offer in-app purchases.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>APP NAME</u>	<u>APPLE OR ANDROID</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Attention	I’m On It: Focus Timer for ADHD & ASD	Android Only	Provides a timer to help individuals stay focused on tasks.
Caregiver Support	Autism Parenting Magazine	Apple and Android	Helps caregivers get the latest solutions, news, and research every month.
	MyAutismTeam	Apple and Android	Caregivers can meet other people in similar circumstances, make friends, and get practical tips.
Education	Aiko & Egor: Animation 4 Autism	Apple and Android	Uses simplified animations and interactive characters to teach. Best watched with caregivers.
	Otsimo – Special Education AAC	Apple and Android	Teaches letters, numbers, colors, animals, and more.
Functional Life Skills	Daniel Tiger for Parents	Apple and Android	Develops areas such as sharing, trying new foods, and coping with emotions.
Sensory and Calming	Infant Zoo LITE for Babies	Apple Only	Provides visual input through high quality illustrations, animal sounds, and stimulating bubbles.

Sensory and Calming	Magic Fluids Lite	Apple and Android	Promotes calming and relaxation by allowing users to create a dynamic wallpaper.
Speech & Communication	Avaz AAC	Apple and Android	Provides assistance for those who struggle to interact with others. It can create a Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) book.

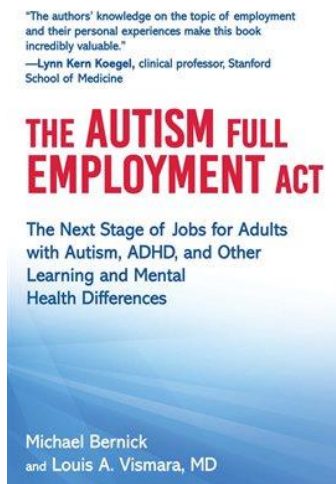
PART 4: AUTISM RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON



Have questions about hoopla? Go to:

[Hoopla-Instructions.pdf \(theoceancountylibrary.org\)](#)

RESOURCES FOR ADULTS/CAREGIVERS

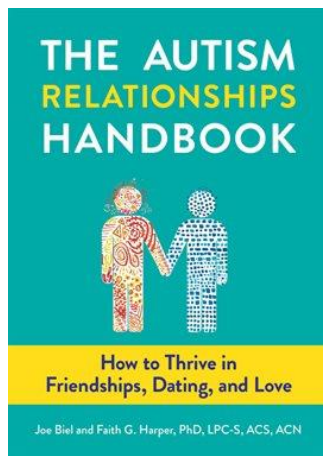


The Autism Full Employment Act By Michael Bernick & Louis Vismara.

Impactful and integral to our economic recovery after the pandemic, The Autism Full Employment Act will rebuild and approve autism employment programs.

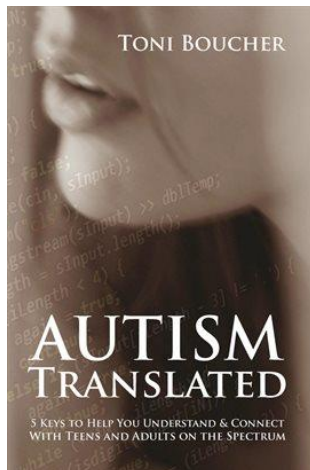
Employment remains the issue today for many adults with autism. Due to the pandemic of 2020, authors Michael Bernick and Dr. Lou Vismara set out to develop an Autism Full Employment Act. At the time, the national economy was decimated, and it was clear that it would need to be rebuilt, starting in 2021 and beyond. The Act will be an attempt not only to rebuild autism employment programs, but also to address the limitations and shortcomings of the current system.

The Autism Full Employment Act shows how there can be a place in the job world for the wide range of adults with autism, ADHD, and other learning and mental health differences-many of whom are not employed today. Bernick and Dr. Vismara review the autism employment initiatives in recent years among major employers, state and local governments, autism-focused businesses, and autism transition programs, and present strategies to build on these initiatives. They set out more fully the meanings of "autism talent advantage," "autism friendly workplace," and "employment for the more severely impacted."



***The Autism Relationships Handbook: How to Thrive in Friendships, Dating, and Love* By Joe Biel and Faith G. Harper, PhD, LPC-S, ACS, ACN.**

Dr. Faith G. Harper joins autistic publisher and author Joe Biel to offer hard-won guidance on a wide range of topics about friendships, dating, and romance and answer a ton of questions. What do you want out of a relationship? What is the difference between flirting and harassment? How do you have a fun date and get to know someone when eye contact and prolonged conversation aren't your strengths? How do you change a casual acquaintance into friendship or dating? How do you express your needs and make sure you're hearing your partner when they express theirs? How do you maintain a healthy, happy long-term relationship? Autistic readers will find valuable answers and perspectives in this book, whether you're just getting ready to jump into dating, seeking to forge closer friendships, or looking to improve your existing partnership or marriage.



***Autism Translated: 5 Keys to Help You Understand & Connect with Teens & Adults on the Spectrum* By Toni Boucher.**

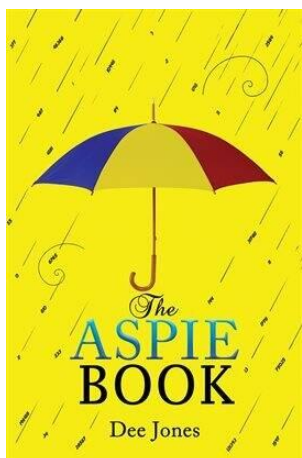
Do you care about a teen or adult on the spectrum but have a hard time understanding why they do what they do? Do you wish you could have a better connection and feel the frustration of wanting to help but don't know how?

Then this book is for you.

It was created with the support of hundreds of autistic individuals and their families.

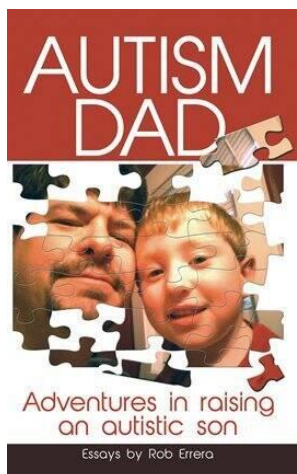
They share their wisdom and insight about growing up autistic so you can learn from their experiences.

This book reveals 5 little-known keys to help you build a better relationship with your autistic child, parent, partner or student. Learn to: 1- Eliminate harmful stereotypes from your thinking 2- Identify and harness autistic strengths 3- Understand what it feels like to be autistic 4- Communicate more effectively 5- Create an authentic & healthy bond.



***The Aspie Book* By Dee Jones**

My clients over the years have repeatedly asked for an easy-to-read book, saying, "We want to take home what's in your head." So this is an everyday-language explanation of all things Aspie, written for Aspies and non-Aspies. Aspies repeatedly ask me to explain how non-Aspies think and work, and neurotypicals are often confused by Aspies. Many interesting case studies and illustrations (it is said that a picture is worth a thousand words) are included to aid these social understandings and interactions. Each chapter is self-contained, so that a reader can quickly get answers and tools in an overall synopsis contained in one section. The last chapter is a show-case collection of individual personal stories and expressions. The Aspie Book is written in non-academic language as much as possible, but also tries to demystify the academic language often used on this topic.



***Autism Dad: Adventures in Raising An Autistic Son* (part 1 of the [Autism Dad](#) series) By Rob Errera**

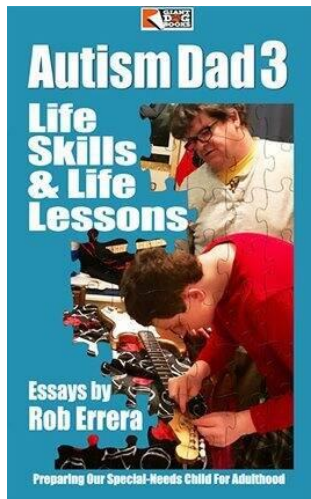
Follow the adventures of Autism Dad in this collection of essays by award-winning syndicated columnist Rob Errera. Funny, informative, poignant, and engaging, Autism Dad, Vol 1: Adventures in Raising An Autistic Son explores the initial devastation of an autism diagnosis, the autism/vaccine controversy, autism in the media, education, therapy and treatments. Above all, Autism Dad, Vol. 1 is about living with, raising, and loving a child with autism, told from a father's perspective. These columns are revised and updated in Autism Dad, Vol. 1, along with three new essays and extensive behind-the-scenes notes that reveal the personal struggles and triumphs of raising a special-needs child.



Autism Dad 2: Continuing Adventures in Autism, Adolescence & Fatherhood (Part 2 of the [Autism Dad](#) series)
By Rob Errera

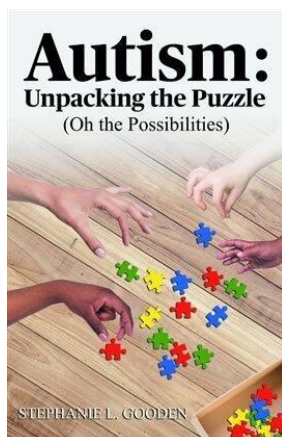
The adventures of Autism Dad and Boy Rocco continue through the pre-pubescent years (age 8-12), leaping over autism's ever-changing obstacles, while stumbling through life's major milestones. Autism Dad and Rocco-along with Precocious Little Sister and Super Mom-tackle everything autism, from diagnosis to family dynamics, with grace and humor. Inside Autism Dad 2- 'Tween Edition you'll find invaluable information on: •The First 7 Steps To Take After Your Child's Autism Diagnosis •The Basics Of Biomedical Intervention •Firsthand Accounts Of The Latest Therapies And Treatments •Special Needs Education And

Recreation • Near Death Experiences And Medical Miracles! Above all, Autism Dad 2- 'Tween Edition is a testament to the healing power of love, and the unbreakable bond between a father and his extraordinary son.



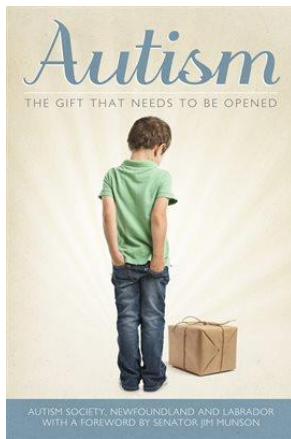
Autism Dad 3: Life Skills & Life Lessons (Part 3 of the [Autism Dad](#) series) By Rob Errera

Teenagers with autism need life skills and job training. Autism Dad 3: Life Skills & Life Lessons: Preparing Our Special-Needs Child For Adulthood is a personal memoir told with humor and grace that looks at the unique challenges facing special-needs children transitioning into young adulthood. This collection of essays not only details a father's take on raising a special-needs child, but tells the story of a family shaped by the everyday challenges and rewards of raising a child with autism.



Autism: Unpacking the Puzzle (Oh the Possibilities) By Stephanie L. Gooden

In this book, you will receive first-hand information on tools needed in raising a child(ren) diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder starting from early childhood. This book discusses the topics of Early Intervention, the diagnoses, Applied Behavioral Analysis, Individualized Education Plans and so much more. You will read personal and real-life stories about navigating through different services and therapies to ensure that your child is receiving the best plan of care. This book will leave you both enlightened and motivated in knowing you have the tools to advocate for your child and balance self-care skills for yourself.



Autism: The Gift That Needs to Be Opened By Newfoundland and Labrador Autism Society

Families, world experts, and persons on the autism spectrum share their experiences in this collection of stories. With a focus on the positive aspects of autism and the importance of community involvement and early intervention, *Autism: The Gift That Needs to Be Opened* is a resource whose aim is to improve the lives of parents, educators, and persons who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Awareness and advocacy for early diagnosis and treatment of autism have grown substantially over the past decade. According to Stephen W. Scherer, Ph.D., D.Sc.,

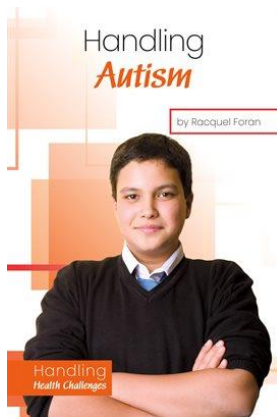
FRSC. There are new studies that show that every child who undergoes intensive behavioural intervention therapy improves in some way. In fact, I have heard rare stories of some children having full or near-full recoveries. The most important factor leading to positive outcomes, however, is to start such interventions early and, in the best-case scenario, even before the first signs of autism appear. These stories are inspirational and informative, while also serving as a reminder-indeed, as a rallying cry-that individuals who have autism can, with the proper care and attention, lead full and productive lives and change the way we see the world.



How to Start Looking at Autism By Greg Stucky.

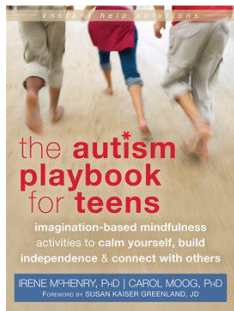
Have you heard about autism but don't know what it is? Does your child exhibit signs of autism, but you're not sure what to believe? Do you have a hard time around friends, coworkers or family that you suspect might be on the spectrum? This quick guide to autism is written with you in mind. After reading this book you'll not only understand how autistics think, but also how to engage with and succeed with them.

RESOURCES FOR TEENS



Handling Autism By Racquel Foran.

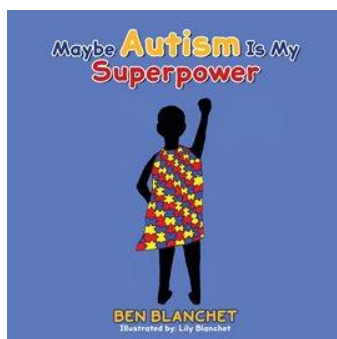
This book explores autism and how people diagnosed with the disorder manage it. It examines how autism affects daily life, work, and education, and it explains the latest interventions and therapies available. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards.



The Autism Playbook for Teens: Imagination-Based Mindfulness Activities to Calm Yourself, Build Independence, and Connect with Others By Irene McHenry & Carol Moog.

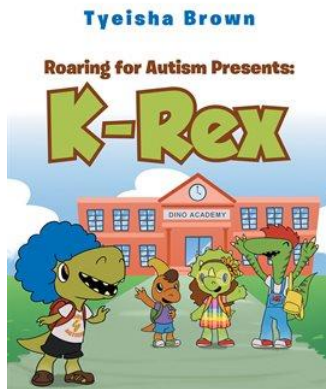
This book offers a unique, strengths-based approach to help teens with autism spectrum (including Asperger's Syndrome) develop social skills, strengthen communication, and thrive. The activities contained in each chapter are custom-designed to work with the unique perspectives, sensory processing, neurological strengths and challenges that teens with autism bring to their encounters with the social world. This is the only book available for teens with autism that specifically integrates mindfulness skills and imaginative scripted roleplaying activities for building authentic social experiences.

RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN



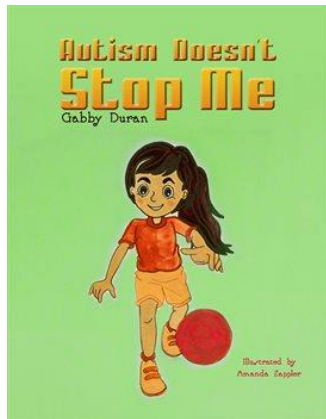
Maybe Autism is My Superpower By Ben Blanchet

After seeing a superhero movie, Ben Blanchet, a thirteen-year-old boy who has autism, claims that maybe autism is his superpower. This book details a fascinating conversation between Ben and his mom. Ben describes the unique ways he hears, sees, and thinks about the world around him. His amazing narrative of his special gifts will also have you wondering if autism really is a superpower. The commentary throughout the book is by his mom, Angela Blanchet.



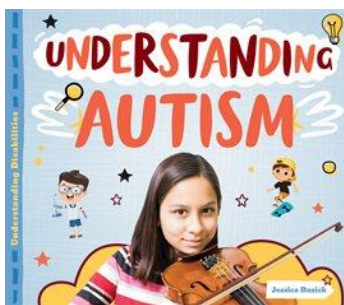
Roaring for Autism Presents: K-Rex *By Tyeisha Brown*

This book is about a big-hearted dinosaur named K-Rex. He is a kind dinosaur with many friends who go on many adventures. He also happens to be on the autism spectrum. Come with us on a journey as K-Rex takes you into his daily life on the spectrum.



Autism Doesn't Stop Me *By Gabby Duran*

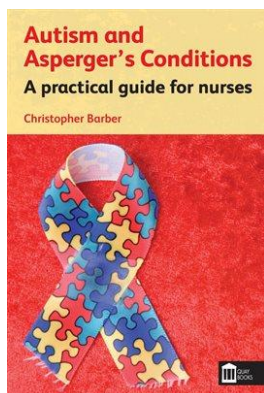
Gabby knows how hard it is to be different from others in the school. Sometimes her own experiences were painful and lonely. She was told she was autistic, and she felt very alone. Gabby rode a special bus to school and went to classrooms where there were few students. Other kids on the playground didn't include her. Even most adults didn't understand her. She wanted friends so badly, and she wanted to be included in schoolyard games! But things got better for her and it will get better for you too!



Understanding Autism *By Jessica Rusick*

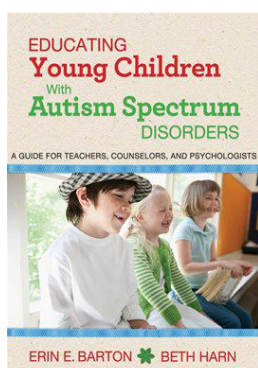
In this title, readers learn common symptoms and behaviors of autism and how it affects kids at school and in relationships. Text includes suggestions on how to be a kind and respectful friend to someone with autism and appropriate activities kids can enjoy together. A famous person who has overcome the challenges of autism is highlighted. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards.

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS, HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, AND THERAPISTS



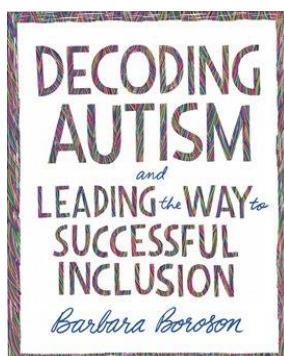
***Autism and Asperger's Conditions: A Practical Guide for Nurses* By Christopher Barber**

Autism and Asperger's Conditions covers a wide range of issues relating to the care and support of those with autism and Asperger's syndrome. This book aims to improve nurses' professional interactions with those with autism spectrum disorders through improved awareness, knowledge and understanding of what these conditions are and what they are not, possible causes, diagnostic issues, nursing interventions, the history of autism, and issues that affect children, adolescents and adults with these conditions and their families. A highly practical and accessible text, autism spectrum conditions are covered from a variety of perspectives, both within and outside of a learning disability setting.



***Educating Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Guide for Teachers, Counselors, and Psychologists* By Erin E. Barton & Beth Harn**

Educating Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders is aimed at providing strategies for teachers, school counselors, and psychologists to help address the needs of children on the spectrum, as well as their families. Including forms, charts, and a range of classroom activities, this is a great resource you will need to gain the insight and tools for making a difference in the educational lives of young children with autism.

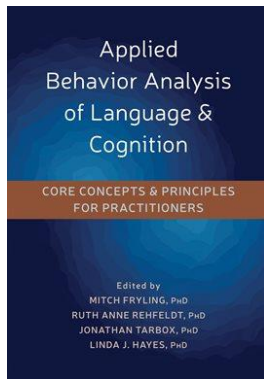


***Decoding Autism and Leading the Way to Successful Inclusion* By Barbara Boronson**

More students on the autism spectrum are taught in general education settings today than ever before, bringing an array of notable strengths and skills that add intriguing new dimensions to educational programs. But these students also present challenges that are broader, deeper, and more intractable than those of their typically developing peers. Because reaching and teaching

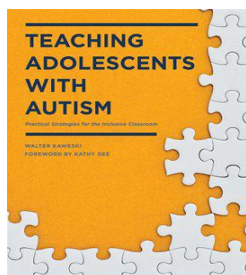
students on the autism spectrum in an inclusive environment complicates the work of teachers, school and district administrators must be prepared to provide knowledgeable, mindful leadership.

Decoding Autism and Leading the Way to Successful Inclusion empowers school and district leaders to ensure that students on the spectrum are welcome, supported, understood, and set up for success. It's an essential resource for any education leader committed to achieving a differentiated, equitable, and inclusive learning environment for all students in their care.



Applied Behavior Analysis of Language and Cognition: Core Concepts & Principles for Practitioners
By Mitch Fryling, PhD

Written by leading experts in language and cognition, this groundbreaking behavior analysis textbook brings the study of verbal behavior into the 21st century with cutting-edge research. Students and clinicians in the burgeoning field of applied behavior analysis will find the theoretical foundation they need to effectively help the increasingly diverse clients seeking their services.



Teaching Adolescents with Autism: Practical Strategies for the Inclusive Classroom
By Walter Kaweski

Award-winning educator Walter Kaweski offers secondary teachers practical strategies and heartfelt insights based on his extensive experience as an autism specialist, inclusion coordinator, and father of a son with Asperger syndrome.

Teaching Adolescents with Autism offers hundreds of valuable ideas to help teachers. This unique book takes the mystery out of teaching adolescents with autism and inspires teachers to appreciate the individuality of each student.

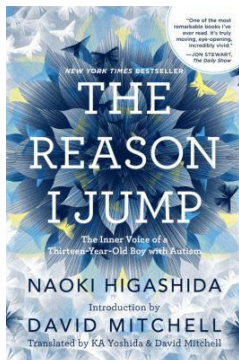
PART 5: BOOKS PERTAINING TO AUTISM



Funny, You Don't Look Autistic: A Comedian's Guide to Life on the Spectrum

By Michael McCreary

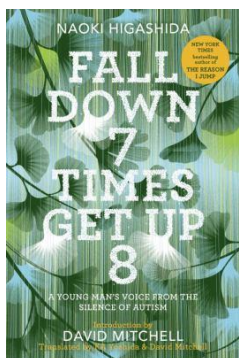
Like many others on the autism spectrum, stand-up comic Michael McCreary has been told that he doesn't look autistic. As he's quick to point out in this memoir, autism looks different for everyone with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).



The Reason I Jump: The Inner Voice of a Thirteen-Year-Old Boy with Autism

By Naoki Higashida

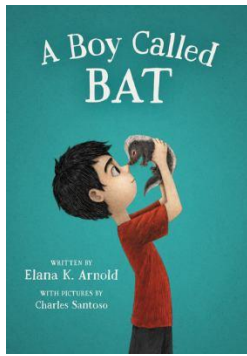
A journey into the mind of a remarkable thirteen-year-old boy with severe autism, this book offers insight into what it's like to have the disorder.



Fall Down 7 Times Get Up 8: A Young Man's Voice from the Silence of Autism

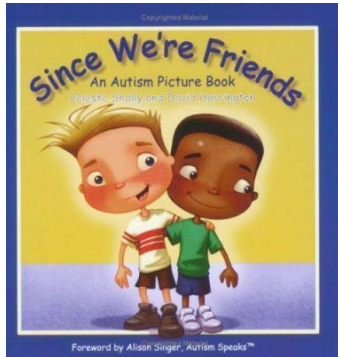
By Naoki Higashida

In this book, Naoki Higashida shares his thoughts and experiences as a 24-year-old man with severe autism. In short, powerful chapters, he explores education, identity, family, society, and personal growth.



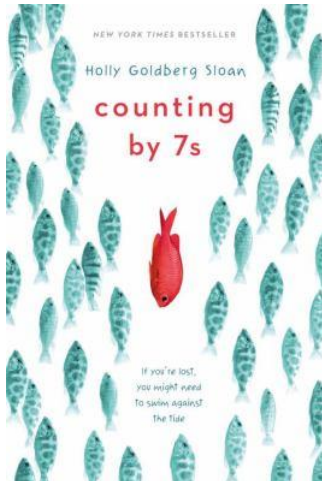
A Boy Called Bat
By Elana Arnold

For Bat, life tends to be full of surprises. Bat's mom, a veterinarian, has brought home a baby skunk which she needs to take care of. He has one month to show his mom that a baby skunk might just make a terrific pet.



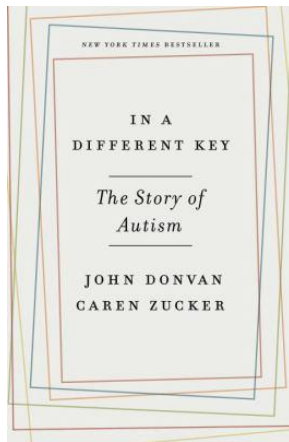
Since We're Friends
By Celeste Shally

The narrator of this children's book describes his friendship with Matt, an autistic boy.



Counting By 7s
By Holly Goldberg Sloan

Willow is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by sevens. Suddenly Willow's world is tragically changed when her parents both die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world.



In a Different Key: The Story of Autism
By John Donvan

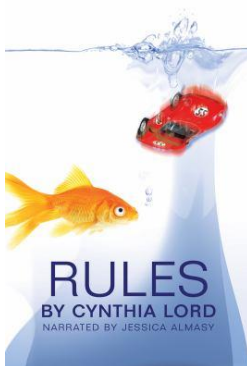
Nearly seventy-five years ago, Donald Triplett of Forest, Mississippi became the first child diagnosed with autism. In *a Different Key* tells the extraordinary story of this often misunderstood condition, and of the civil rights battles waged by the families of those children who have it.



Rain Reign

By Ann M. Martin

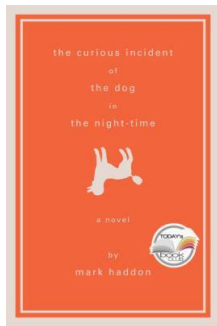
Rose Howard has OCD, Asperger's Syndrome, and an obsession with homonyms. She gave her dog Rain a name with two homonyms. Just as a storm hits the town, Rain goes missing. Now Rose has to find her dog, even if it means leaving her routines and safe places to search.



Rules

By Cynthia Lord

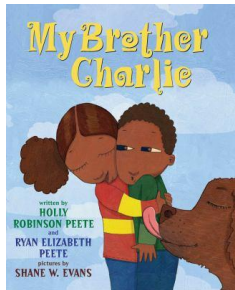
Frustrated by life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence. Her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.



The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

By Mark Haddon

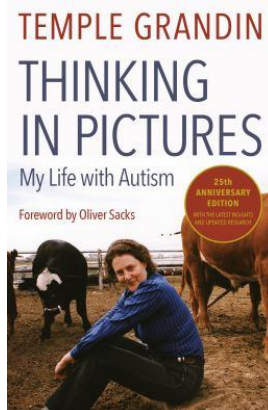
Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.



My Brother Charlie

By Holly Robinson Peete & Ryan Elizabeth Peete

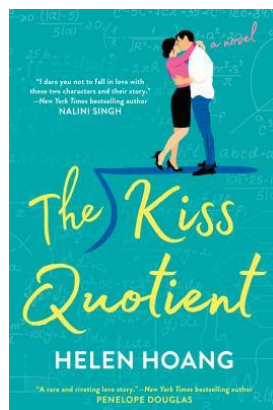
A young girl describes what it's like to have a twin brother who has autism and sometimes finds it hard to communicate with words, but who, in most ways, is just like any other boy.



Thinking in Pictures: and Other Reports from My Life with Autism

By Temple Grandin

Grandin writes from the dual perspectives of a scientist and an autistic person. Grandin charts the differences between her life and those who think in words.



The Kiss Quotient

By Helen Hoang

Stella has less dating experience than most thirty-year-olds because she has Asperger's. She decides to hire a professional escort to practice being in love.

PART 6: GUIDES FOR COPING
WITH COVID-19 AND
RESOURCES FOR REMOTE LEARNING

Although the lockdown and the uncertainty that we experienced during the initial wave of the COVID-19 pandemic have passed, the virus continues to affect our lives and can be particularly challenging for those with developmental disabilities. Listed below are resources that are designed to assist both individuals with autism and their caregivers.

1) Autism NJ. www.autismnj.org/article/type/coronavirus

Provides guidance on preparing individuals with autism for the vaccine, wearing masks, adjusting to disruptions in their routines, coping with regression and challenging behaviors, remote learning resources, and useful apps. Also contains strategies for caregiver self-care, financial concerns, and practical information regarding COVID-19 and its effects on the delivery of therapies. Autism NJ also has a hotline: 1-800-428-8476.

**2) Harvard Health Publishing: Harvard Medical School.
<https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/helping-people-with-autism-spectrum-disorder-manage-masks-and-covid-19-tests-2020061020089>**

An article containing tips for helping those with ASD cope with taking a COVID test and adjust to wearing masks.

3) The Arc of New Jersey. [The Arc of New Jersey : Information : COVID-19 Updates & Information : COVID-19 Updates & Information \(arcnj.org\)](http://arcnj.org)

Contains COVID-19 resources for individuals with disabilities and their caregivers – and a video for those with developmental disabilities about taking a COVID test.

4) New Jersey Division of Disability Services.

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dds/news

Contains an emergency preparedness checklist for people with disabilities.

5) Autism Speaks.

www.autismspeaks.org/covid-19-information-and-resources

Has a wide variety of resources geared toward families and toward adults who have autism. There is an Autism Response Team (ART) available to answer questions by phone, email, and live chat (1-888-288-4762). Also contains tips for discussing COVID-19 with your child, a social story about wearing masks, guidance if your child needs to be hospitalized, behavioral resources, coping with stress, and parental training and support resources.

6) Echo Autism.

www.echoautism.org/parent-resources-during-covid-19

Contains information about how to do ABA, OT, and speech therapy at home, how to teach at home, social stories, and parenting tips.

7) Education.com. www.education.com

Contains free printable worksheets on a wide variety of topics for children in preschool through fifth grade. Also has online games, songs, activities, and stories. Must create a free account to use.

PART 7: AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION (AAC) DEVICES

iPads preloaded with apps: LAMP Words for Life, Tobii Sono Flex, & My First AAC are available for in-house use at the Brick, Little Egg Harbor, & Stafford branches.

Patrons with library cards in good standing will be able to trial the apps before making the purchase for their home devices or to trial for students or patients.

AAC devices are augmentative/alternative communication systems that allow a person to communicate with those around them without speaking. There are many different types of AAC but the most common are high-tech AAC Devices that allow a person to push a button to speak a message. These are helpful for children or adults who have either lost the ability to speak or who are not able to speak well enough to clearly communicate everything that they want to say. This includes some children with conditions such as autism, childhood apraxia of speech, and other types of speech/language delays. These devices are sometimes called “communication devices” or “talkers.”

These devices are supported in full with funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the New Jersey State Library, award number LS-252474-OLS-22.

FAQs -

1. What apps are available?

LAMP Words for Life, Sono Flex, & My First AAC

2. Do I need to have an Ocean County Library Card in order to borrow the devices?

Yes, you will need to have a valid Ocean County Library card, with fines under \$25 to borrow a device.

3. How long can I borrow the device?

A device may be checked out for use in the library only and must be returned to a service desk before the branch closes for the day.

4. Can I renew the device?

Devices are not renewable.

5. How do I return the device?

The device must be returned in person to the service desk, directly to a staff member. They cannot be returned to a library book-drop or left on the service desk.

6. What if the device is damaged or lost?

Please alert staff if the device you are borrowing is damaged or lost.

7. Will I have to accept any terms to use the devices?

Not at this time.

8. Am I able to save my documents or applications on the device?

No, you may not save any documents or applications on the device. You are encouraged to use your personal email, cloud storage, or file sharing service before you return the device



The information provided in this document is intended for your general knowledge only and is not a substitute for professional medical, legal, or financial advice, or treatment for specific medical conditions.

12/1/23