

Connections

A Newsletter For Teachers Working With Autism
Educational Equity For All



December 2016

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH YOUR CHILD WITH ASD

While the holidays are regarded with anticipation and joy for most families, families with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) may have mixed feelings. It is always best to plan for what you can anticipate and expect the unexpected. The holidays are a time when your child, who thrives on routines and sameness, is out of his or her comfort zone. He or she will be asked to visit unfamiliar places, try new things, be in the company of many people (some of whom are strangers), eat different foods, and... enjoy the sights and smells of the season!

- The following are a few ideas to consider:
- There are so many Holiday celebrations! Consider whether to attend all, none, or perhaps arrive for the last part of the holiday party.
- Consider attending the less popular church service, where there will be fewer in attendance.
- Think of ways to incorporate special events around the regular routine.
- Plan for the days ahead and begin to talk about it. Perhaps note on a calendar what you will do, who will be there, what it will be like for each day you have something special planned.
- Dress in comfortable clothes, and bring a change – the excitement can bring on any type of accident.
- Pack a “safety net bag” with your child’s favorite calming toys. These may be stress balls, video games (fully charged), and headphones to muffle sound as well as to listen to favorite music.

See more ideas and suggestions at: <https://goo.gl/5qSb7W>



Don't miss the next Sensory Friendly Film!



FANTASTIC BEASTS
AND WHERE TO
FIND THEM
12/13



MOANA
12/10



ROGUE ONE
12/27

Movie Showings for Guests & Families Living with Autism or Other Special Needs

AMC is proud to partner with the Autism Society to bring you unique movie showings where you can feel free to be you! We turn the lights up, and turn the sound down, so you can get up, dance, walk, shout or sing!

We are now expanding our Sensory Friendly Film program to four showings per month.

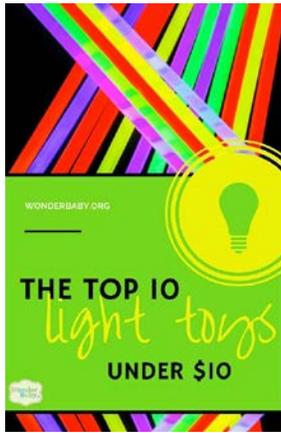
- The second and fourth Tuesday and Saturday.
- Family-friendly movies will continue to show Saturdays, starting at 10am local time
- We've added Tuesday showings at 7pm local time that may appeal to others on the autism spectrum.

Tickets are \$4-6 depending on location and can be purchased on the day of the event. To find a participating theater: <https://www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films>

EDUCATIONAL
EQUITY FOR ALL
..... Giving kids what they need to succeed.

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FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



Top 10 Light Toys Under \$10

<http://www.wonderbaby.org/articles/top-10-light-toys>

Top 10 Light Toys Under \$10 to incorporate light play around your home, during pretend play, and even on your clothes! We've also included activity ideas specifically designed for children with visual impairments for each product.

SIGHTWORDS

Sight Words Teaching Strategy

A. See & Say

A child sees the word on the flash card and says the word while underlining it with her finger.

B. Spell Reading

The child says the word and spells out the letters, then reads the word again.

C. Arm Tapping

The child says the word and then spells out the letters while tapping them on her arm.

D. Air Writing

A child says the word, then writes the letters in the air in front of the flash card.

E. Table Writing

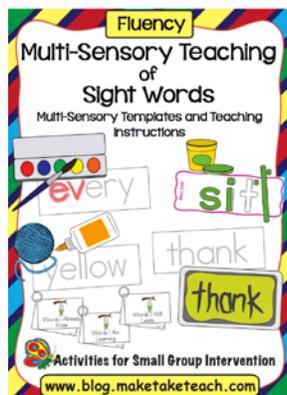
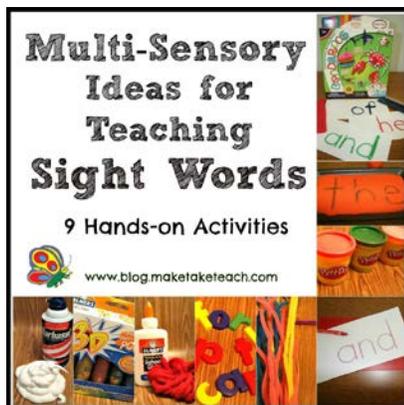
A child writes the letters on a table, first looking at and then not looking at the flash card.

Corrections Procedure

Correct a child's mistake by clearly stating and reinforcing the right word several times.



<http://www.sightwords.com/sight-words/lessons/>



<https://goo.gl/kNiiDI>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://goo.gl/FLJ2RB>
<https://goo.gl/xWpdoQ>
<https://goo.gl/4S4Qcj>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



A-Z of Educate Autism Articles

Here we list all of the articles, tutorial and videos we have created for the website in alphabetical order. As we create more content they will be added to the list.

- Applied Behaviour Analysis
- Behavioural Principles
- Functional Behaviour Assessment
- Infographics
- Make Your Own Teaching Aids
- Social Stories
- Teaching Tips
- Time-Out
- Token Economy

<http://www.educateautism.com/a-z-of-articles-tutorials.html>

RECOMMENDED READING & VIDEO



"When My Worries Get Too Big! A Relaxation Book for Children Who Live with Anxiety"

By Kari Dunn Buron

Almost all children on the Autism Spectrum suffer from some form of anxiety. This book teaches beginning visualization and

techniques that even very young children can use to calm themselves. It also lists preventative measures that are easy for all ages to understand, so children can learn to self-calm at the first sign of panic or anxiety.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF AUTISTIC CHRISTMAS

BY FLANNERY
THE CONNOR CHRONICLES

- 12 cookies missing
- 11 tagless undies
- 10 days of Minecraft
- 9 children flapping
- 8 times-a-spinning
- 7 therapy appointments
- 6 hours of scripting
- 5 IEPs
- 4 sticker charts
- 3 social stories
- 2 new words
- And a meltdown in Aisle 3