

Connections

A Newsletter For Teachers Working With Autism
Educational Equity For All



February 2018

Supporting Students with Autism: 10 Ideas for Inclusive Classrooms

By: [Paula Kluth](#)

- 1: Learn about the learner from the learner
- 2: Teach to fascinations
- 3: Get them talking
- 4: Give choices
- 5: Consider handwriting alternatives
- 6: Help with organizing
- 7: Support transitions
- 8: Create a comfortable classroom
- 9: Take a break
- 10: Include

This article is from the website of Dr. Paula Kluth. It, along with many others on inclusive schooling, differentiated instruction, and literacy can be found at www.PaulaKluth.com. Visit now to read her Tip of the Day, read dozens of free articles, and learn more about supporting diverse learners in K-12 classrooms. <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/supporting-students-autism-10-ideas-inclusive-classrooms>



Five tips for helping nonverbal children with autism learn to read

Fortunately there are many ways to teach reading that don't depend on a child using spoken language.

1. Spend lots of time reading with your children! We know that reading with children encourages their development of language and reading.
2. Nonverbal interactive reading
3. Discuss stories using assisted communication
4. Reading and writing with speech-generating devices
5. Practice literacy when you're out and about <https://goo.gl/tPrzGH>



Don't miss the next Sensory Friendly Film!



PETER RABBIT
2/10



THE MAZE
RUNNER: THE
DEATH CURE
2/13



BLACK
PANTHER
MOVIE
2/27

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



Sensory Fidget Toy Bundle
- 3 Wacky Track Snap 'n
Click Puzzles with Double
the Standard Links, 3 Twist,
Flex, 'n Shape Tangles and
Bonus Storage Bag - by
Bapon Toys

Bapon Toys' Fidget Toys Set is more than just a few games. The wacky tracks provide tactile, visual, and auditory stimulation as their pieces pivot, "click" together and pull apart.



Teaching Reading and Spelling to Autistic Children by Marie Rippel

6 Tips for Teaching Children with Autism

1. Use Direct Instruction
2. Focus on Incremental Lessons
3. Teach One New Concept at a Time
4. Use Multisensory Techniques
5. Provide Concrete Examples
6. Reward You Child's Progress

<https://blog.allaboutlearningpress.com/teach-reading-autistic-child/>



INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON

Indiana Resource Center for Autism

Teaching Tips for Children and Adults with Autism by Temple Grandin, Ph.D.

- Many people with autism are visual thinkers.
- Avoid long strings of verbal instructions.
- Many children with autism are good at drawing, art and computer programming. These talent areas should be encouraged.
- Many autistic children get fixated on one subject such as trains or maps. The best way to deal with fixations is to use them to motivate school work.
- Use concrete visual methods to teach number concepts.
- Many autistic children have problems with motor control in their hands. Neat handwriting is sometimes very hard. This can totally frustrate the child. To reduce frustration and help the child to enjoy writing, let him type on the computer. Typing is often much easier.

<https://www.iidc.indiana.edu/pages/Teaching-Tips-for-Children-and-Adults-with-Autism>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://www.iidc.indiana.edu/pages/visualsupports>

<https://www.pictoselector.eu/>

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/links.html>



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

The Online Learning Portal

Any teacher or school staff member can access the face to face workshop participant booklets and complete online modules via the Positive Partnerships Online Learning Portal. The Positive Partnerships Online Learning Portal contains the following interactive self-paced learning modules.

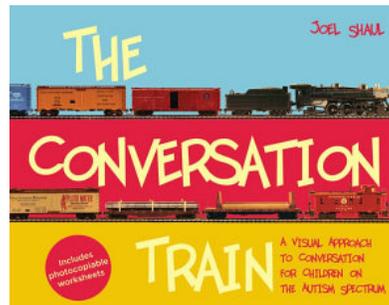
- An Introduction to Autism
- 7 Information Topics
- Making Friends
- Completing Work
- Supporting Successful Transitions and Change
- Sexuality, Personal Hygiene and Safety
- Communication
- Bullying
- Siblings

Also available are webinars on a variety of topics

<http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/webinars>



RECOMMENDED READING & VIDEO



The Conversation Train: A Visual Approach to Conversation for Children on the Autism Spectrum
Joel Shaul

This inventive color picture book a train to teach basic conventions of conversation to children with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs). Engines are like greetings; they get the train going. Freight wagons are like different speakers' turns; it is good to have at least a few when you are in conversation. A set of points guiding a train from one track to another is like a tactful change in the topic of conversation. When a conversation veers off-topic it is like a derailed train. As well as attractive color photographs of trains, the book contains engaging photocopyable worksheets and coloring pages to help promote skill generalization. This highly visual approach to conversation is ideally suited to children with ASDs aged approximately 5-13.