

Connections

A Newsletter For Teachers Working With Autism
Educational Equity For All



January 2018

Adapting for Autism
Specializing in adapted materials
for students with autism

Autism Visual Aid:
Sentence Starters

Free

I want

Proactive visual support to increase communication and reduce "tip of the tongue" syndrome!

Art Visuals and Schedules for Autism

Art projects can be especially challenging for students with autism. The sensory experience and fine motor requirements can lead to anxiety and frustration.

So I know better than to just put a pile of supplies in front of my students and expect anything but a mess at the end.

But there's good news! Setting expectations and providing communication supports can help you reduce some of the challenges.

With that in mind, [I created a resource with many of my favorite art visuals](#). These are perfect for art projects within a special education classroom or during an actual art class.

<http://www.adaptingforautism.com/visual-supports/art-visuals-schedules/>

Check out the free resources too. Free life skills file folders.

AMC Sensory Friendly Films

Don't miss the next Sensory Friendly Film!



THE GREATEST SHOWMAN
1/9



FERDINAND
1/13



PADDINGTON 2
1/27

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.

Tana Donaghy, President, Educational Equity For All
Misstanad@educationaequityforall.org; 909-964-5057
<http://www.educationalequity4all.com/>

FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



25 SENSORY HACKS FOR KIDS FOR VESTIBULAR & PROPRIOCEPTIVE INPUT

Here are **25 insanely awesome sensory hacks for kids** with autism and/or sensory processing disorder.

<http://www.andnextcomes1.com/2015/02/25-sensory-hacks-for-kids-autism.html>

Snagglebox

18 Tips To Make Transitions Easier

1. Break it down
2. Show that change can be okay
3. Ease into it
4. Be prepared
5. Use a schedule
6. Make the end obvious
7. Use transition cues
8. Avoid verbal prompts
9. Use a timer
10. Define physical areas and boundaries
11. Teach transition words
12. Teach tangible time
13. Use a transition object
14. Allow plenty of time
15. Watch for signs of stress
16. Make social stories
17. Practice disengaging
18. Avoid them

<http://www.snagglebox.com/article/autism-transitions-tips>

educationandbehavior.com

Free Academic, Behavioral, and Social-Emotional Support for Children

15 Behavior Strategies for Children on the Autism Spectrum



https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=za_xmnlgooly

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<http://autismteachingstrategies.com/free-social-skills-downloads-2/>
<https://educationtothecore.com/sequencing?pp=0>
<http://icansingarainbowtoo.blogspot.com/2013/11/life-in-colour.html>



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



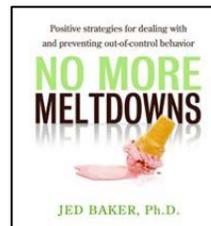
Welcome to IDEA Partnership's Collaborative Work on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

The Autism Collection—an excellent set of resources for training principals, general educators and others who need an overview of autism or areas related to the education of students with ASD. Includes PowerPoints with notes for trainers, dialog guides and other resources to provide training.

http://www.ideapartnership.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1493



RECOMMENDED READING & VIDEO



[No More Meltdowns: Positive Strategies for Managing and Preventing Out-of-Control Behavior](#)

by Jed Baker, Ph.D.



THERAPY TIPS

An In-Depth Guide: How to Transition Young Children with Autism

Sensory Diets:

Occupational therapists have long recommended that a child with Autism, who can have sensory processing deficits, be given physical and even tactile breaks at regular intervals, to get “grounded” again when switching activities.

A sensory diet can help one connect to the present by engaging in specific motoric behaviors to keep “level” and counteract hyper/hypo-arousal (such as swinging, listening to music), or even strongly chewing something (crunchy carrot sticks, pretzels, or bread crusts etc.) To learn more about sensory processing and the power of a sensory diet, I recommend these sites:

1. [Alert Program](#)
2. [Sensory Smarts](#)
3. [Socially Speaking LLC](#)

<http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/2013/10/16/an-in-depth-guide-how-to-transition-young-children-with-autism/>