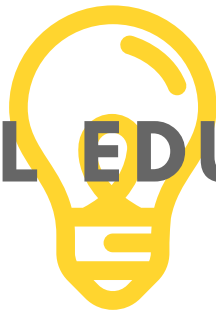




SPECIAL EDUCATION



April is Autism Acceptance Month

THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF APRIL, AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH FOCUSES ON SHARING STORIES AND PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTANCE OF PEOPLE WITH AUTISM AND FOSTERING WORLDWIDE SUPPORT.



Show your support!



World Autism Awareness Day is Friday, April 2nd. Due to the Spring Recess, everyone is encouraged to wear **YELLOW** to show your support on Friday, April 9th!

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

MAY 3, 2021 - MAY 7, 2021

In an article titled "I've Learned from Special Education Teachers", a teacher working alongside special education teachers shared what she learned from her colleagues that made her a better educator:

1. **Accept every student as they are.**
2. **Active listening is a gift.**
3. **Scaffolding a lesson is just good teaching.**
4. **Be specific when sharing information with parents.**
5. **Eliminate jargon when talking with parents.**
6. **Students want to feel loved.**
7. **Share what we've learned from others.**
8. **Patience is a gift, a virtue, and a necessity.**
9. **Ask for help.**
10. **Laugh.**

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY.

Check out the full article here:

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/what-ive-learned-special-ed-teachers>

Paraprofessional Day

APRIL 7TH

Take a moment and extend your appreciation to all the paraprofessionals who support our students and contribute to our school buildings in many ways!

Administrative Assistant Day

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21ST

THANK YOU

Thank you to all our administrative assistants who help keep our school buildings and offices running smoothly!



AUTISM ACCEPTANCE

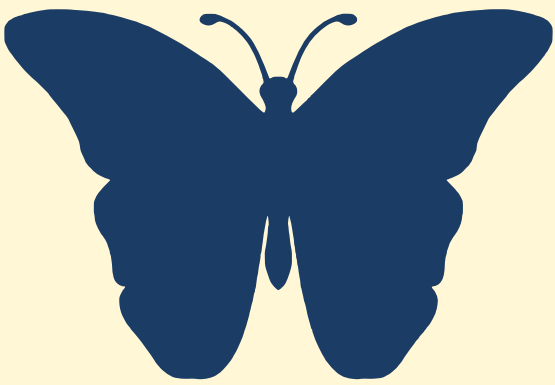
FACTS

Did you know?

- Every 20 minutes someone is diagnosed with Autism
- Individuals with Autism may use a variety of different and unique strategies to communicate
- Many individuals on the spectrum stay in school until the age of 21.



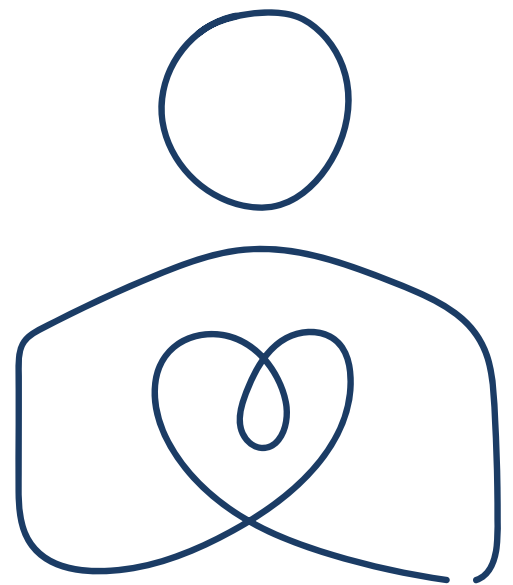
STRENGTHS AND ABILITIES OF AUTISM



- An individual can memorize information quickly
- Thinks and learns in a visual manner
- Possesses an extraordinary memory
- An individual is honest and reliable

AWARENESS IDEAS

- Invite speakers into the school building to talk about autism including professionals in the field
- Read literature
- Post and distribute resources to all community stakeholders
- Hold a day to wear **YELLOW** to raise autism awareness



CLASSROOM LEARNING IDEAS



- Read aloud texts and pieces of literature with characters who are identified as having Autism
- Decorate butterflies and write how to be a good friend to all
- Students create their own brochures about Autism awareness
- Students write letters to legislators regarding equality for all students

For more information and resources, check out these top Autism Organizations:

Autism Society
Autism Highway



"Autism is not a disability, it's a different ability."
- Stuart Duncan



Students can...

- Be a good role model for peers
- Wear YELLOW to show support
- Read books about autism to discuss the importance of showing empathy
- Host a fundraiser in honor of autism awareness
- Make crafts or complete projects that promotes inclusivity, equity and community (i.e. butterflies, infinite symbol)



Literature about Autism



Elementary

- ANDY AND HIS YELLOW FRISBEE BY MARY THOMPSON
- RUSSELL IS EXTRA SPECIAL BY CHARLES AMENDA, III
- CAPTAIN TOMMY BY ABBY WARD MESSNER
- MY BEST FRIEND WILL BY JAMIE LOWELL AND TARA TUCHEL
- IAN'S WALK-A-STORY ABOUT AUTISM BY LAURIE LEARS AND KAREN RITZ
- THE AUTISM ACCEPTANCE BOOK BY ELLEN SABIN
- TOBIN LEARNS TO MAKE FRIENDS BY DIANE MURRELL
- TACO'S ANYONE BY MARVIE ELLIS AND JENNY LOEHR
- KEISHA'S DOORS BY MARVIE ELLIS
- NOBODY KNEW WHAT TO DO: A STORY ABOUT BULLYING BY BECKY MCCAIN
- A IS FOR AUTISM BY JENNIFER BLOINK

Secondary

- OF MICE AND ALIENS BY KATHY HOOPMAN
- BUSTER AND THE AMAZING DAISY BY NANCY OGAZ
- LISA AND THE LACE MAKER BY KATHY HOOPMAN
- WISHING ON THE MIDNIGHT STAR BY NANCY OGAZ
- CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT BY MARK HADDON
- A SPOT OF BOTHER BY MARK HADDON CLAY BY COLBY RODOWSKY
- HAZE BY KATHY HOOPMAN TO OZ AND BACK: A BONES AND DUCHESS MYSTERY BY ALEXNDRA EDEN
- A WIZARD ALONE: THE SIXTH BOOK IN THE YOUNG WIZARDS SERIES BY DIANE DUANE

School Wide Fundraising Ideas



- Hold a walk in honor of Autism Awareness
- Collect loose change and coins
- 'Caps for Cash' - Students donate \$1 to wear a hat to school

1 in 20 children have a disability.



That gives 19 kids a daily opportunity to learn about diversity, collaboration, inclusion and friendship