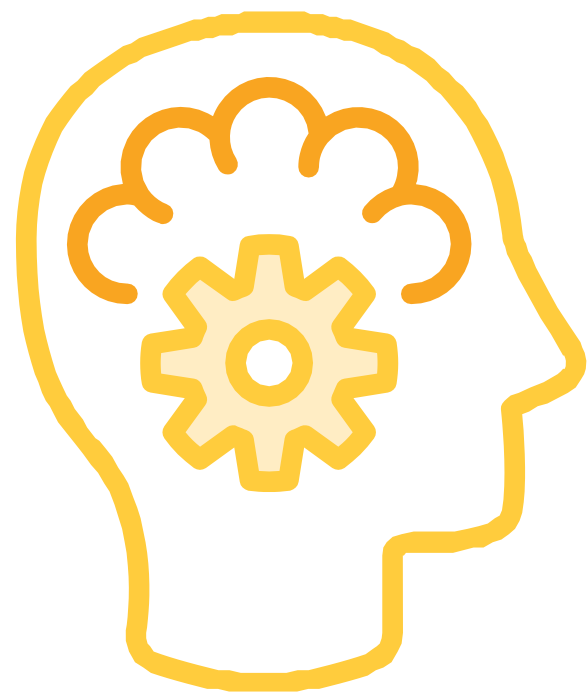


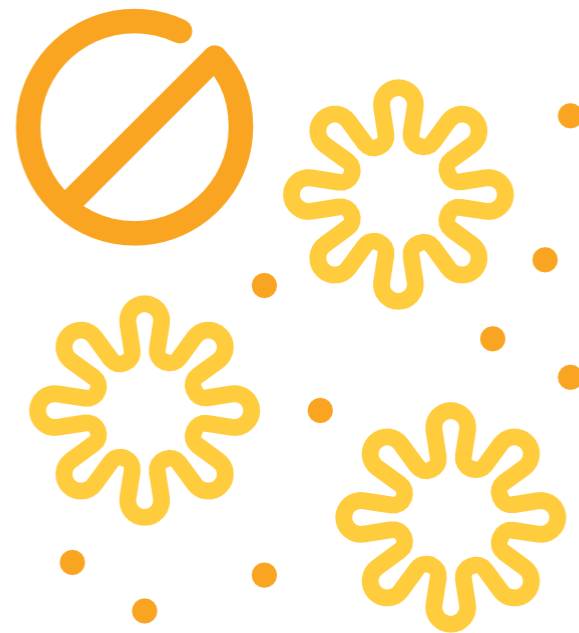
What is **AUTISM?**



Having autism means that a person's brain processes information, including information about their environment, in another way.



You cannot catch autism. It is not a virus or a cold.



Autism can give a person both strengths and challenges



How do kids with autism act?

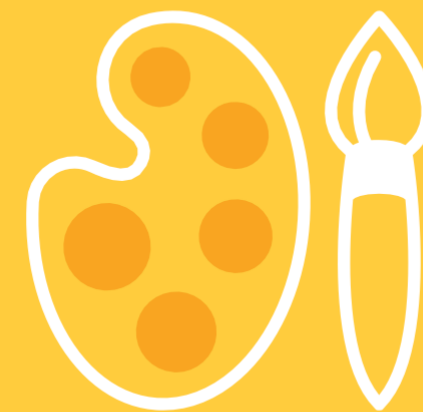
Children with autism may act differently and that is ok. We are all different in our own way!

Children with autism are good at many things. Some examples are math, spelling, art and technology.

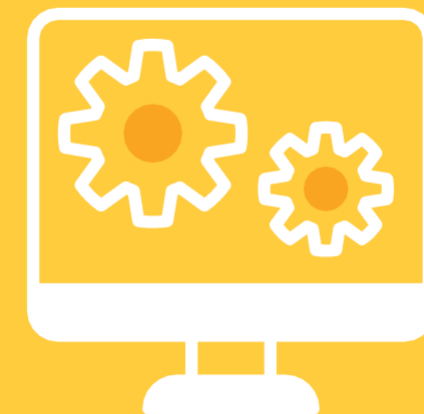
Math



Art



Computers



Check out this
video to see how
AMAZING things
happen when you
have a friend with
autism.

Watch now



How do kids with autism act?



Sometimes it may be hard to talk to others or express their feelings

They may make sounds or gestures or not talk at all



Sometimes they may stim like spin, flap or fidget

They may not look at you but can still understand what you are saying



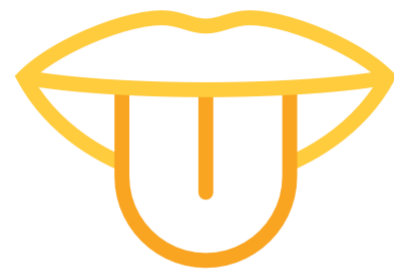
They might use pictures, schedules and prefer routines

The 7 Senses

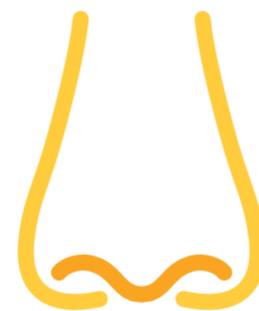
Someone with autism may be sensitive to:



Touch



Taste



Smell



Hearing



Sight

However, are you aware there are 2 more?

Proprioceptive:
understanding where your body is in space

Vestibular:
understanding your sense of balance



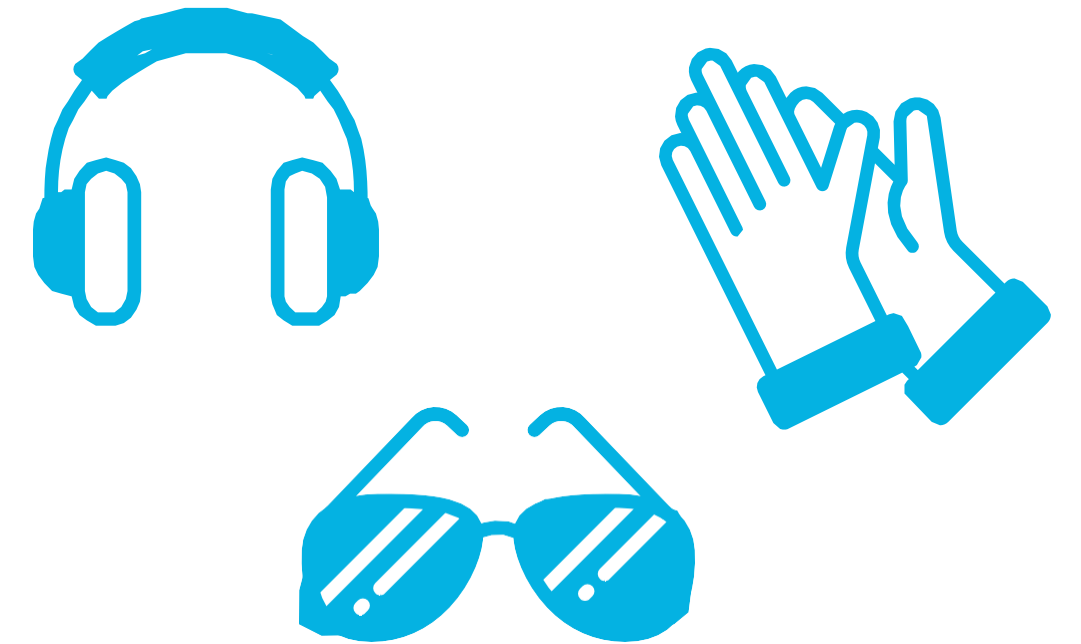
Proprioceptive



Vestibular

Did you know?

Some individuals may have **hypersensitivity** (over-sensitive) and may require special tools such as headphones, sunglasses, gloves, etc.



Or some individuals may have **hyposensitivity** and be more of a sensory seeker. These individuals may like items such as fidgets, sand & water tables, loud music, etc.



Now consider for a moment
if your teacher only asked you
questions about the image
faces on the right?

How well would you do?

Some individuals see the faces,
and some see a cup. Each
person's perception is
different.



How can I be a good friend to someone with autism?



1

Accept each other's differences



2

**Talk in small sentences with simple words.
Use simple gestures like pointing or waving**



3

**Do activities with them that interest them
and invite them to join you too!**

How can I be KIND to friends with autism?

BE



Be patient

GIVE



Give your friend extra time to answer questions or complete an activity

INVITE



Invite your friend to play with you

TEACH



Teach your friend something new by showing them how to do it

ASK



Ask your teacher questions about your friend with autism

HELP



Help other kids learn about autism

APRIL IS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Together we can make our schools a better place for everyone!

