

ASD Booklist

Below are a few recommended books on autism. This list is by no means comprehensive, but simply a starting point for collection development.

Nonfiction for Parents, Caregivers and Families

The Kid-Friendly ADHD & Autism Cookbook by Pamela J. Compart, M.D. Includes recipes that are gluten- and casein-free.

The Out-of-Sync Child Has Fun: Activities for Kids with Sensory Processing Disorder by Carol Stock Kranowitz, M.A. A wonderful resource filled with activity suggestions that stimulate the 5 senses and engage a child's fine and gross motor skills.

The Highly Sensitive Child: Helping Our Children Thrive When the World Overwhelms Them by Elaine N. Aron, Ph.D. A guidebook on how to help children with sensory sensitivities to handle new situations, make friends, and manage social situations. It is divided into age groups, from newborns to teens.

The Autistic Spectrum: A Parent's Guide to Understanding and Helping Your Child by Lorna Wing, M.D. Clearly and simply explains how parents can better understand their child's specific condition and offers techniques and daily routines.

Asperger Syndrome and Difficult Moments: Practical Solutions for Tantrums, Rage, and Meltdowns by Brenda Smith Myles Specific to Asperger's, this book helps parents and caregivers understand the Rage Cycle and how to overcome it.

Asperger Syndrome and Sensory Issues: Practical Solutions for Making Sense of the World by Brenda Smith Myles Provides strategies, techniques, and games for helping children with sensory issues.

More Than Little Professors: Children with Asperger Syndrome in Their Own Words by Lisa Barrett Mann, M.S. Ed. (Ed.) Includes essays, poems, and pictures from children who have Asperger's.

Self-Help Skills for People with Autism: A Systematic Teaching Approach by Stephen R. Anderson, Ph.D., BCBA. A guide for parents to help their children gain self-help skills such as eating, toileting, dressing, and personal hygiene.

Creative Therapy for Children with Autism, ADD, and Asperger's: Using Artistic Creativity to Reach, Teach, and Touch Our Children by Janet Tubbs A handbook with activities, exercises, and games to help children on the spectrum express emotion, develop fine motor skills, and improve verbal skills.

Early Intervention Games by Barbara Sher Suggests games and activities that encourage children with autism spectrum or sensory processing disorders to enhance or improve their social, motor, and sensory skills, and provides tips to modify games for various skill and sensory levels.

Everyday Solutions: A Practical Guide for Families of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders by Mindy Small This comprehensive resource offers parents and other caregivers practical and effective approaches to solving the many puzzles of daily living with a child with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) - from dressing, toileting, and eating, to going to the playground, visiting the dentist, getting used to a new baby, and many more.

ASD Booklist

Fiction for Children and Teens

The London-Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together--Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat--to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim. Recommended for ages 9 and up.

Rules by Cynthia Lord Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young boy who is a paraplegic. Recommended for ages 9 and up.

Marcelo in the Real World by Francisco X. Stork Marcelo Sandoval, a seventeen-year-old boy on the high-functioning end of the autistic spectrum, faces new challenges, including romance and injustice, when he goes to work for his father in the mailroom of a corporate law firm. Recommended for ages 12 and up.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time by Mark Haddon A funny murder mystery of sorts told by an autistic fifteen-year-old boy. Recommended for ages 13 and up.

Anything But Typical by Nora Raleigh Baskin In the third grade, after yet another battery of tests, Jason receives the diagnosis of autism. Now in sixth grade, he relates how he does not fit in, even though he tries to follow the instructions of his therapists and helpers. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his older sister who has autism.

The Reinvention of Edison Thomas by Jacqueline Houtman Middle school student Eddy Thomas loves science and inventing, but has trouble with people. Finally he meets some friends who appreciate his abilities and respect his unique view of the world.

Picture Books

My Brother Charlie by Holly Robinson Peete A girl tells what it is like living with her twin brother who has autism and sometimes finds it hard to communicate with words, but who, in most ways, is just like any other boy. Includes authors' note about autism.

Autism & Me: Sibling Stories by Ouisie Shapiro In these moving essays and photographs, kids describe what it's like to have siblings with autism. Beautiful and inspiring.

Understanding Sam by Clarabelle Niekerk A young boy named Sam, has difficulty at school and seems moody at home. When Sam is diagnosed with a form of autism called Asperger syndrome, his family and teachers understand him better and learn how to help him succeed. Includes tips for parents, teachers and children on being with children who have Asperger's.

ASD Booklist

My Brother Sammy by Becky Edwards A boy describes some of the many feelings he has about his brother Sammy, who has autism.

Books for Working With Children With Autism

Point to Happy by Miriam Smith Point to happy. Point to sad. Point to hug. Give me a hug. Dozens of friendly photographs are compelling to look at and easy to understand. The text is clear and direct. By pointing to the pictures in the book—moods, activities, everyday objects, the rituals of going to bed and getting ready in the morning—children will learn to convey their wants and needs, their experiences and their feelings.

The Social Skills Picture Book by Jed Baker Uses photographs of students engaging in a variety of real-life social situations. The realistic format plays to the visual strengths of children with ASD to teach appropriate social behaviors. Color photographs illustrate the "right way" and "wrong way" to approach each situation and the positive/negative consequences of each. A facilitator (parent, teacher, etc.) is initially needed to explain each situation, and ask questions such as "What is happening in this picture?" Children role-play skills until confident enough to practice them in real-life interactions.

It's Clear As a Bell and Other Curious Things We Say (part of a series *Sayings and Phrases*) by Cynthia Klingel Using illustrations and everyday examples, kids can discover the meanings behind such curious idioms as "It's as clear as a bell!"