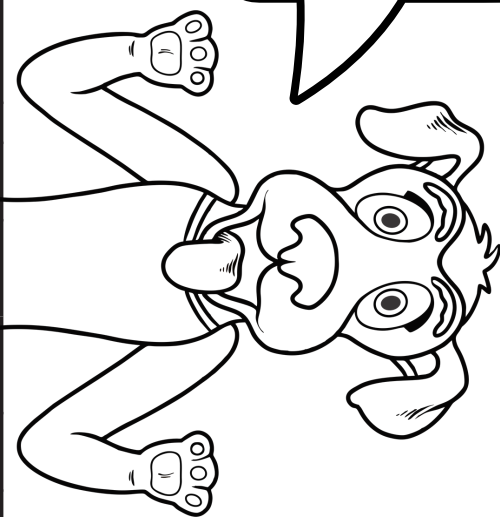
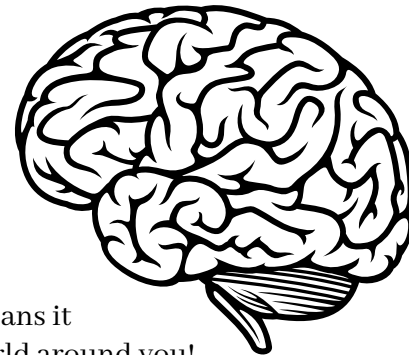


APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH!

WHAT IS AUTISM?



- Autism is a neurological disorder. That means it affects your brain and how you see the world around you!
- Autism is something you are born with and have for life
- Having autism means you might have a different way of
 - Communicating
 - Socializing
 - Sensory Processing
 - Understanding

Someone with autism may experience emotions differently than you. Since they experience emotions differently, how they express themselves might look different from how you would express your emotions:

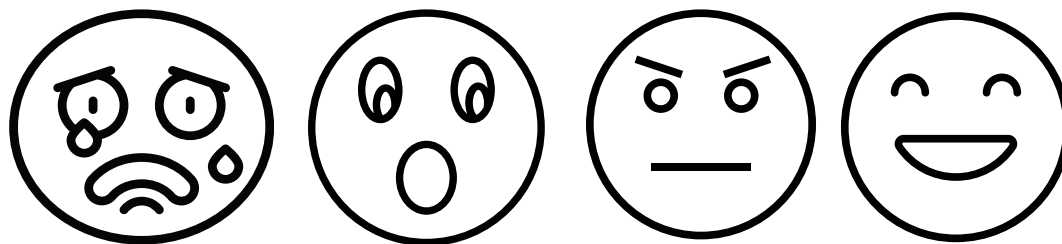
Happy might look like:

- Flapping hands
- Rocking
- Clapping
- Laughing/Yelling

Upset might look like:

- Covering ears
- Yelling
- Pushing on their body
- Crouching

WHAT CAN AUTISM LOOK LIKE?



Someone that has autism still has so many strengths, just like you!

They could be:

QUALITIES AND STRENGTHS

SMART

creative

FUNNY AND SILLY

friendly

Kind

Helpful

ADVENTUROUS

a really great friend!

Some people may not understand what autism is or the different and unique ways someone with autism thinks or acts. They might make fun of how someone with autism:

- Looks or dresses
- Acts
- Likes certain things
- Talks
- Thinks

Bullies often focus on the limitations and don't see the similarities or celebrate the wonderful differences!

BULLIES?

HOW TO BE A FRIEND?

As someone that wants to learn about others and be respectful of everyone, you have a very important job: being an **ADVOCATE**.

Being an advocate means you stick up for anyone that might get teased or picked on. It means you are patient with others, listen to others, and are respectful to how anyone sees the world!

You can be a friend to anyone, especially to those that have autism, by getting to know them, asking them about what they like, and giving them a chance!

EVERYONE WANTS TO BE RESPECTED AND APPRECIATED FOR WHAT THEY BRING TO THE WORLD!

Autism Awareness

S U V L H M N I P J N Q Z G D
B S F I G A X H L D J O I Y N
V O W S V U M X Y J C N N B S
A C V T F S A M E W O R T A A
W I T E M B T Q H L M Z E D Y
H A V N D A R D X R M M R A W
H L E I O C S A R K U G E B B
A Z H H Q W T Z I N N Z S L A
Y U W N X K S P Z N I M T E U
V C R Q L N E P W Y C J S Q J
D L X G Z O N K Y F A M J I M
J F S M J E S N R D T O Z S P
Y P Y E L H O H R B I C V P I
G Y X A V Z R V L R O X D A H
R E F W E T Y T V Q N B C X N

COMMUNICATION

SENSORY

INTERESTS

LISTEN

SOCIAL

SAME

BRAIN

ABLE

#OPPORTUNITYTOINSPIRESUPPORT

#TAKEOTISFORAWALK

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