



IRELAND'S **AUTISM** CHARITY

Secondary School Autism Acceptance Resources





Books

'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time' – Mark Haddon

A novel about a fifteen year old Autistic protagonist.

'How To Be Human; Diary of an Autistic Girl' – Florida Frenz

A illustrated diary telling the story of an autistic girl's journey through school.

'The State of Grace' – Rachael Lucas

A novel for young adults about the challenges of being autistic in a world that doesn't make sense.

'The Rosie Project' – Graeme Simsion

A romantic comedy with an autistic protagonist, suitable for older readers.

'Camouflage: The Hidden Lives of Autistic Women' – Sarah Bargiela, Sophie Standing & Jessica Kingsley

A graphic novel about the experiences of autistic women.

'Carly's Voice' – Arthur & Carly Fleischmann

A memoir of a non-speaking girl breaking down communication barriers. Co- written with her father.

'How to be Massive' – Aoife Dooley

An illustrated collection of visual by an autistic graphic artist.

'Frankie's World' - Aoife Dooley

An illustrated graphic novel about an Autistic character embracing their Autistic Identity.

'A Different Sort of Normal' - Abigail Balfe

A journal style book by Autistic Author and Illustrator.

'The Reason I Jump' – Naoki Higashida & David Mitchell



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Video Resources

Adam Harris TedTalk; Autism As A Disability

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPm4cK8FCVw>

Dr. Stephen Mark Shore TedTalk; The Superpower of Autism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gk9T7ngEijs>

Temple Grandin TedTalk; The World Needs All Kind of Minds

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UKhg68QJlo0>

Alexander Amelines; 'Amazing Things Happen' –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbwRrVw-CRo>

AsIAm; 'I Can Communicate!' –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0cbDr6tbOQg>

AsIAm; 'That's My Voice!' – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S86W3HZ1_mk

AsIAm; 'Learn My Language' - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TsSN9LrqdAA>

AsIAm; 'Remember I Can Hear You' - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJeZpkGWJQ4>

AsIAm; 'I Like Options Too' – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aau13ZuVP8U&t=2s>

AsIAm; 'Don't Judge Me' - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JX-qp7-H0FU>

Learning Activities

Autism Mind Map

The students will create a mind map, with everything they know about Autism. This can be done in pairs, in small groups or as a whole class. The teacher will take note of any misconceptions to be addressed.

Sensory Activities

The students complete a series of sensory activities to help them understand what it is like to have sensory differences:

- Reading a list of words in different colour on a timer
- Tracing activity using a periscope/binoculars
- Listening to instructions when background noise is louder than speaker

Use computer game - <http://13.95.219.190:8080/Index.html>

- Opening a small sweet while wearing XL gardening gloves
- Feely bag – guessing what an item is by its texture
- Smelling different scents while blindfolded and guessing what they are

Research Famous Autistic People

The students can research and engage in project work on a number of famous autistic people, such as (but not limited to):

- Temple Grandin & the Farming Industry
- Greta Thunberg & Climate Action
- Satoshi Tajiri & Pokemon



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Learning Activities

Autistic Students Share Their School Experience

Invite current or past pupils to share their experience of school. This could be read over the intercom or via a video / recording clip.

Special Interest Day

Students work on and create a presentation on their area of special interest. The presentation of topic can take any format.

Our School's Got Talent

The students can engage with a talent show which celebrates all talents and gives the opportunity for students to show different kinds of talents.

New Skills Day

The students learn a new and challenging skill together.

Artwork Day

Students can communicate their feelings or experiences through art, as a means to understanding that communication is not just talking.

Contact a Local Autism Support Group

Invite your local Autism Support Group to give a talk in your school (via Zoom/Skype etc.) about their activities and see if there are volunteer opportunities. A list of Autism Support groups can be found on the AsIAm website



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Learning Activities

Fundraising Ideas:

This is a list of suggested fundraisers and is by no means definitive – feel free to get creative!

- Non-uniform day
- Art exhibition
- Table quiz (children/parents)
- Readathon
- Spelling Bee
- Funky feet day
- Coloured hair day



Online Resources For Teachers

AsIAm - Website

www.asiam.ie

AsIAm - Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/c/AsIAmIreland>

Little Puddins - Website

www.littlepuddins.ie

Unicef- Website

<https://www.unicef.ie/>



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Book Resources For Teachers

What works for Autistic Children

Author: Dr Luke Beardon

The Predictive Brain

Author: Dr Peter Vermeulen

Nurturing Your Autistic Young Person

Author: Cathy Wassell

Uniquely Human

Author: Dr Barry M. Prizant

Autism

Author: Sue Fletcher-Watson & Francesca Happé

Unmasking Autism

Author: Dr Devon Price



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