

This April, in recognition of Autism Acceptance Month, the Autism Department at SOESD Regional Inclusive Services encourages you to celebrate differences, promote self-advocacy, and support autistic individuals while exploring resources that utilize a neurodiversity affirming approach.

Video Resources



Autism Acceptance 2022-The Neuro Bears from PANDAS (Promoting Acceptance of Neuro Divergence And Support)

PANDAS Website: <https://pandasonline.org/index.php>



Amazing Things Can Happen by Alexander Amelines

"The infinity symbol is also a fairly new symbol and was created with the help of neurodiversity advocates to be used at any time in any place. The symbol was first used on Autistic Pride Day on June 18th, 2005. It was created using a different perspective than previous symbols and to raise awareness all year round. The use of a rainbow spectrum in the infinity symbol was designed to drive awareness of the diversity among neurodivergent individuals."

Read more about other symbols at this link:

<https://www.autismparentingmagazine.com/autismsymbols/>



Websites:

- **Read about Autism Acceptance and Advocacy, and learn about person-first vs. identity first language from STAR Autism Support:**
<https://www.starautismsupport.com/march-newsletter-autism-acceptance-and-advocacy>
- **In the past few years, Organization For Autism Research has become increasingly aware of these differing points of view. To better understand which labels the majority of our audience prefers, we conducted a survey. We received an incredible response: over 1,000 people participated in our survey, including more than 800 self-advocates. Read about the survey here:**
<https://researchautism.org/1000-people-surveyed-survey-says/>
- **Autistic Self-Advocacy Network (ASAN) contains resources for Autistic self-advocates and helpful information to develop a better understanding of autism:**
<https://autisticadvocacy.org/>
- **Free downloadable NeuroInclusive social story "Room for us all" by NeuroClastic:**
<https://neuroclastic.com/better-than-social-stories-free-download-a-room-for-us-all/>
- **Neurodivergent Narwhals contains free downloadable infographics:**
<https://neurodiversitylibrary.org/neurodivergent-narwhals/>
- **I CAN Network provides tips for service providers, and adults who are supporting autistic LGBTQIA+ youth, as well as tips for autistic LGBTQIA+ youth:**
<https://icannetwork.online/autistic-lgbtqia/>
- **Bridges Learning System provides a sensory-friendly space checklist, as well as resources to support neurodivergent individuals:**
<https://bridgeslearningsystem.com/free-resources/>
- **Free downloadable resources from Autism Society of America. Click resources for downloadable zip drive:**
<https://autismsociety.org/autism-acceptance-month/>