

Special
Education



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Autism Spectrum Disorder

[7% of students with disabilities]

Characteristics of Students with an Autism Spectrum Disorder:

- Difficulty understanding social etiquette and rules
- Trouble making and keeping friendships
- Preoccupation with a topic or topics of interest
- Concrete and/or literal thinking
- Insistence on sameness or routines

Students with significant verbal and nonverbal communication and social interaction difficulties that result in adverse effects to the student's educational performance that are evident prior to age 3



Resource:

https://www.pbis.org/Common/Cms/files/Forum14_Presentations/D15_NAC_Ed_Manual_FINAL.pdf

Instructional Implications:

1. Use visual aids
2. Teach student how to use a planner or other organizer
3. Be concise and direct in your instructions
4. Use visual timers, clock or watch to help with time management and transitioning from one task to another
5. Provide specific concrete feedback
6. Support transitions
7. Decrease stimuli in environment and provide structure
8. Consider handwriting alternatives
9. Teach specific social rules and skills
10. Give clear choices
11. Recognize that changes in behavior or manner may indicate anxiety
12. Try to link work to student's interests
13. Don't take rude comments or aggressive behavior personally
14. Divide work into smaller units



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