



# Sources for Information on Autism



PROJECT ACCESS

Dear Project ACCESS,

I am getting a student with autism. Where can I get information?

Sincerely,  
Clueless in Missouri

## PROJECT ACCESS

Project ACCESS is a good place to begin looking for information regarding autism. We have [fact sheets](#) on topics of high interest as well as links to helpful websites. We also offer a wide variety of online and in-person workshops you can sign up for! The [online workshops](#) are free and work at your own pace!

We also have created a [free resource library](#) with all different types of visuals from token charts, to visual schedules, and even communication visuals free of charge and ready for download! [Autism Minutes](#) are mini 5-20 minute trainings provided by our Autism Resource Specialists and are great for caregivers and educators. We also have an [Autism Helpline](#) where teachers can create threads and ask for help or ideas from our community!

## DEAR CLUELESS,

We know what you mean—Knowing where to turn for help can be confusing and overwhelming! Project ACCESS is here to help! We offer many resources ourselves and know just where to find additional information and trainings! Just be aware of outdated materials. You want to make sure your resources are written within the last five years and are based on research based practices.

## AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA (ASA)

The [Autism Society of America \(ASA\)](#) provides extensive information online. Email or call their hotline, 1-800-3AUTISM. Find out if there is a local chapter of the ASA in your area to network with parents and professionals. ASA sponsors an annual national autism conference.

## MPACT

Contact your Regional Center for Persons with Developmental Disabilities and speak to your regional Autism Project to find out what training and resources they can offer. [MPACT](#), Missouri Parents Act located at 8301 State Line Rd. Suite 204; Kansas City, MO 64114 (800-743-7634 or local: 531-7070), specializes in advocacy issues, but also provides disability information online



# Helpful Websites

## AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Autism Society of America's mission is to promote lifelong access and opportunities for persons within the autism spectrum and their families, to be fully included, participating members of their communities through advocacy, public awareness, education, and research related to autism.

## BEHAVIORAL ANALYST CERTIFICATION BOARD

This is a nonprofit corporation established as a result of the identification of credentialing needs by behavior analysts, agencies within several state governments, and consumers of behavior analysis services. The BACB's main purpose is to develop, promote, and implement a voluntary national certification program for behavior analyst practitioners.

## COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN (CEC)

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. CEC advocates for appropriate governmental policies, sets professional standards, provides continual professional development, advocates for newly and historically underserved individuals with exceptionalities, and helps professionals obtain conditions and resources necessary for effective professional practice.

## CDC

Department of Health and Human Services – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is "the nation's premier public health agency—working to ensure healthy people in a healthy world". CDC's Mission is "to promote health and quality of life by preventing and controlling disease, injury, and disability.

## DESE

(DESE) The Missouri Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education Division of Special Education assists school districts in establishing and improving services for children with disabilities.

## DESIGN TO LEARN

Design to Learn strategies and materials address the educational needs of children and adults who have severe disabilities including multiple and low incidence disabilities such as deaf-blindness and autism. These materials are especially useful for individuals who do not have conventional means of communication.

## DMH

DMH - Department of Mental Health Network of Care for Mental/Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities is an online resource for individuals, families and agencies concerned with mental and emotional wellness, substance abuse and developmental disabilities. It provides information about developmental disabilities services, laws, support, advocacy tools and related news, as well as communication tools and other features.

## FIRST SIGNS

First Signs provides a wealth of vital resources, covering a range of issues: from healthy development to concerns about a child; from the screening and referral process to treatments for autism spectrum disorders.

## FRAXA

Fraxa is a research foundation whose mission is to support research aimed at treatment for Fragile X Syndrome. This website offers concise explanations of the symptoms and cause of Fragile X, and provides information on research and how to get involved with the foundation.

## INDIANA RESOURCE CENTER ON AUTISM

The Indiana Resource Center for Autism staff conduct outreach training and consultations, engage in research, and develop and disseminate information focused on building the capacity of communities, organizations, agencies, and families to support children and adults across the autism spectrum in typical work, school, home, and community settings. The Indiana Resource Center for Autism does not promote one method or a single approach. Instead, IRCA staff strive to address the specific needs of the individual by providing information and training on a variety of strategies and methods.

## KIDSHEALTH FOR KIDS

KidsHealth for Kids: offers doctor-approved, age-appropriate health information about kids. The autism topic page includes descriptions of symptoms, causes and treatment options.

## IN YOUR POCKET DESIGNS

In Your Pocket Designs, Inc. The look of regular clothes with the built-in benefits of sensory integration therapy for school, for home, for everyday life. Ready-to-wear vests with weights to address proprioception and vestibular issues.

## LINGUISYSTEMS

LinguiSystems Publishing Company has lots of materials on autism

## MAAP SERVICES, INC.

Maap Services, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing information and advice to families of More advanced individuals with Autism, Asperger's syndrome, and Pervasive developmental disorder (PDD).

## MARGARET A. PERICAK-VANCE

Margaret A. Pericak-Vance, Ph.D., Director of the Duke University Medical Center for Human Genetics. Latest genetic findings for autism.

## MODDRC

Missouri Developmental Disability Resource Center (MODDRC) serves all Missourians free of charge as the main source for information on disability and related topics, and links persons with disabilities and their families to community support

## MO-FEAT

Missouri Families for Effective Autism Treatment (MO-FEAT) has the mission of providing education, advocacy, and support for families and the autism community and to promote early diagnosis and effective autism treatment.

## MISSOURI PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICES

Missouri Protection and Advocacy Services (MO P&A) protects the rights of individuals with disabilities in Missouri by providing advocacy and legal services. The services provided include information, education, direct advocacy, mediation, investigation of abuse and neglect, and legal services.

## MISSOURI YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF) is the only forum of its kind in Missouri for students with disabilities. Juniors and Seniors in high school who attend the forum are able to learn about leadership principles, disability experience, resource sharing, assistive technology, developing their advocacy skills and much more.

## NASDSE

National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE) operates for the purpose of providing services to State agencies to facilitate their efforts to maximize educational outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

## NICHCY

National Information Center for Children & Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY) is the national information and referral center that provides information on disabilities and disability-related issues for families, educators, and ()the–professionals. Our special focus is children and youth (birth to age 22).

## NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

National Institutes of Health. The NIH has an autism list serve which you can subscribe to their website

## OSERS

Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) supports programs that assist in educating children with special needs, provides for the rehabilitation of youth and adults with disabilities, and supports research to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities.

## PACER

Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights (PACER) programs help parents become informed and effective representatives for their children in early childhood, school-age and vocational settings. Through knowledge about laws, resources and parents' rights and responsibilities, families are better equipped to work with agencies to obtain appropriate services for their sons and daughters.

## PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING

Partners in Policymaking is a training program for parents of young children and persons with developmental disabilities that is designed to provide state-of-the-art training on the best practices in disability related areas.

## PICTURE EXCHANGE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) was developed 12 years ago as a unique augmentative alternative training package that allows children and adults with autism and other communication deficits to initiate communication. It was created with educators, resident care providers and families in mind, and so it is readily used in a variety of settings.

## SERI AUTISM RESOURCES

SERI Autism Resources contains many links to autism resources nation wide.

## SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Southwest Center For Independent Living is an organization that serves people with disabilities and their families. Their services are designed to find ways to assist with overcoming barriers in their lives, whether physical, empowerment, legal issues or safety for the home. They have been in Springfield since 1985 and all services are free.

## THOMPSON CENTER

Thompson Center at University of Missouri has developed a "Free Materials" webpage that contains Missouri-specific resources for individuals with autism, family members, healthcare, childcare, and service providers. Resources include awareness materials about developmental milestones and red flags for autism, online training modules about autism, state and regional autism resource guides, and financial resource guides.

## TOUCHPOINT AUTISM SERVICES

TouchPoint Autism Services, St. Louis, MO For more than 30 years, TouchPoint has been a pioneer in treatment and training of individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and their families. Its programs rooted in principles of applied behavior analysis within a social exchange framework, they have prc effective training and treatment to thousands of families across the world.

# TANGIBLE SYMBOL SYSTEMS

Tangible Symbol Systems are designed for people who are unable to understand the meaning of the abstract symbols used in formal language

# WRIGHT'S LAW

Wright's Law As new reports about dramatic increases in the number of children diagnosed with autism are issued, this site aims to bring you up to date on issues about educating and advocating for children with autism.

# WRONG PLANET

Wrong Planet is an online resource and web community designed for individuals (and parents of those) with Asperger's Syndrome, Autism, ADHD, and other PDDs.



GET  
CONNECTED!



© PROJECT ACCESS - SEPTEMBER 2022 \*PROJECT ACCESS IS A COLLABORATION AMONG THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY, AND MISSOURI'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS.