



OBE Gives A Hoot About Autism Awareness!

April 2019

What is Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Autism is known as a "spectrum" disorder because there is wide variation in the type and severity of symptoms people experience. ASD occurs in all ethnic, racial, and economic groups. Although ASD can be a lifelong disorder, treatments and services can improve a person's symptoms and ability to function. A diagnosis of ASD now includes several conditions that used to be diagnosed separately: autistic disorder, pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS), and Asperger syndrome. These conditions are now all called autism spectrum disorder.

Children with Autism may have special strengths or abilities. For instance, he or she may be a math whiz, a great artist or unbeatable at computer games. Some children with Autism prefer that schedules stay the same or that people always sit in the same seats. Changes in their daily schedule or routine can make them uncomfortable. Examples of what a student with Autism does when they are uncomfortable are; they may try telling others what to do or where to sit, they do not know what is coming next, they can be very upset, sad or angry. You may think they are being "bossy", but they are not they are just trying to adjust to the changes.

Autism affects the way a person's brain and body works. It is not a disease and is not contagious. You cannot catch Autism from a classmate or friend. A person with Autism may have a hard time communicating with other people, making friends or following directions, because they have trouble understanding what other people are thinking or feeling. This makes it very hard for them to express themselves either with words or through gestures, facial expressions, and touch. However, with the help of teachers, classmates, families, and friends' children with Autism often can persevere despite their challenges.

Advocate

Understand

Teach

Inspire

Support

Motivate

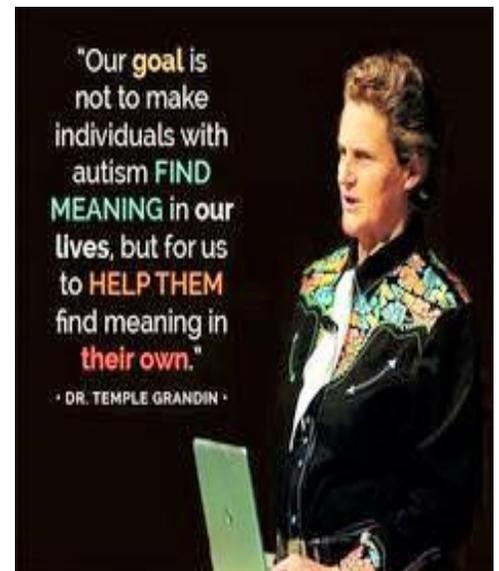
O.B.E.'S MISSION FOR AUTISM AWARENESS

"Our mission at Orange Brook Elementary is to model acceptance, bring awareness and to advocate for students and their loved ones with Autism. It is a privilege to be of service to Orange Brook Elementary, the Hollywood community and the District of Broward County Schools. We strive to provide each student with highly structured, engaging and meaningful instruction as a means to a brighter future. High expectations, inclusiveness and opportunity motivates our students to be their best! We are on a mission to create future leaders, entrepreneurs and independently functioning adults with Autism. With this mission we do vow to educate and nurture ALL students by showing professionalism, humanity, love and the respect they deserve."

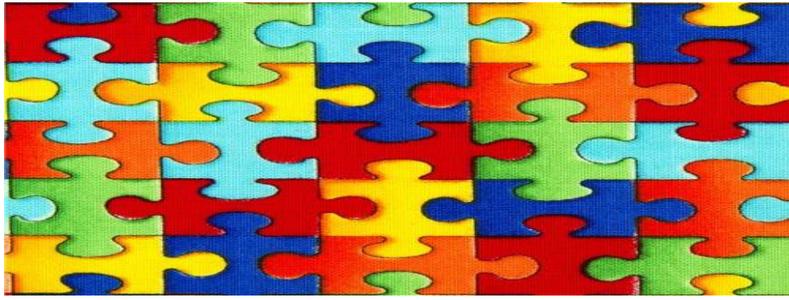
Orange Brook ASD Team

"There needs to be a lot more emphasis on what a child can do instead of what he cannot do."

Dr. Temple Grandin



FOR MORE RESOURCES AND INFORMATION ABOUT AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS, VISIT AUTSIMSPEAKS.ORG AND AUTISM-SOCIETY.ORG. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OBE'S AUTISM WALK VISIT OUR SCHOOL'S WEBSITE OR FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!



I'm Puzzled...

How do I "fit" in?

Children with Autism may look like other kids, but if you met them you would find they are different in some ways. It may be hard for them to play, to make friends or to learn new things. Some may have trouble talking or understanding what people say. Some may talk too much about a favorite topic. But, just like you, children with Autism are very special in many ways. They have families who love them very much, they go to school, and they have special interests.

How Can I Be a Friend to Someone with Autism?

- Accept your friend's differences.
- Talk in small sentences with simple words and use simple gestures like pointing.
- Use pictures or write down what you want to say to help your friend understand.
- Be patient! Wait, and give him or her extra time to answer your question or complete an activity.
- Invite your friend to play with you and show him or her what to do in the activity or game.
- Help other kids learn about Autism.

Some kids with Autism may:

- Have trouble talking, make strange sounds, or not talk at all.
- Flap their hands, spin, or laugh a lot.
- Sit quietly and not look at others.
- Play or behave differently than other friends.
- Be very active or be very quiet and like to spend time alone.
- Have trouble looking directly at you.
- Do or say the same things repeatedly; like lining up toys or repeating a line from a movie.



Please come join us @ OBE April 24, 2019 Autism Awareness Walk



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