

RESOURCES

- ***FOR SPECIFIC QUESTIONS &/OR STRATEGIES REGARDING A PAST OR CURRENT STUDENT PLEASE CONTACT: DENISE BON @X55150 OR DBON@GWC.CCCD.EDU***

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

WWW.GOLDENWESTCOLLEGE.EDU/DSPS/ASD

WWW.COLLEGEAUSTIMSPECTRUM.COM

RECOMMENDED BOOK

WOLF, L., THIERFELD BROWN, J. & KUKIELA BORK, G. R.. (2009) STUDENTS WITH ASPERGER SYNDROME: A GUIDE FOR COLLEGE PERSONNEL. SHAWNEE MISSION, KANSAS:AUTISM ASPERGER PUBLISHING CO.

CAP Information Sheet for Faculty & Staff

Golden West College

Autism Spectrum disorders (ASD) are neurodevelopmental disorders characterized by difficulties with **social interaction and communication**. The first section includes things you may notice when working with autistic students. The next section includes common strengths, struggles and strategies that you can use to work effectively with students. It is important to understand that not all Autistic students are the same. The following is a general overview of some characteristics you might encounter.

WHAT YOU MIGHT NOTICE

- *May exhibit awkward eye contact, posture, and/or gestures
- *May have difficulty with change in classroom, seating and syllabi
- *May have sensory sensitivity (lights, sounds, smells, touch)
- *May appear inattentive or bored
- *May ask inappropriate questions

- *May misunderstand tone of voice, jokes, facial expressions, sarcasm, idioms, metaphors & subtle messages
- *May have oddities in vocal pitch, volume & intonation
- *May be easily distracted
- *May have strong narrow interests
- *May become easily overwhelmed/anxious

- *May come across as rude or argumentative
- *May have literal concrete thinking patterns
- *May use calming/focusing strategies such as rocking, tapping or pacing
- *May seem inflexible
- *May obsess over concerns

STRENGTHS

- ABOVE AVERAGE INTELLECT
- RULE FOLLOWERS
- HONEST
- STRONG VISUAL AND SPATIAL SKILLS
- STRONG SENSE OF EQUALITY & JUSTICE
- EXCEPTIONAL TALENTS
- DILIGENT W/ROUTINE WORK
- STRONG MEMORY
- KNOWLEDGEABLE & PASSIONATE ABOUT AREAS OF INTEREST
- ORIGINAL WAYS OF SOLVING PROBLEMS

STRUGGLES

- SETTING BOUNDARIES
- WORKING IN GROUPS
- INITIATING, PLANNING, ORGANIZING & CARRYING OUT TASKS
- SEEING OTHER'S POINT OF VIEW
- UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL RULES
- ASSESSING PRIORITIES & PERFORMANCE
- ASKING FOR CLARIFICATION OR HELP
- INTERPRETING VAGUE INSTRUCTIONS
- COMPREHENDING THE ABSTRACT
- SEEING THE BIG PICTURE
- ANXIETY

STRATEGIES

- *PROVIDE DIRECT FEEDBACK
- *SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES
- *AVOID IDIOMS, METAPHORS, SARCASM
- *CONSIDER ASSIGNING GROUPS
- *PROVIDE VISUAL LEARNING TOOLS
- *SUPPLEMENT VERBAL INSTRUCTIONS W/ WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS
- *EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF ASSIGNMENT
- *BE DIRECT
- *ALLOW BREAKS
- *ASK FOR HELP