



**Autistic Services Lending Library**  
4444 Bryant Stratton Way  
Williamsville, New York 14221  
Phone: (716) 631-5777

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## THE AUTISTIC SERVICES LENDING LIBRARY

The Autistic Services Lending Library maintains a selection of over 500 books, over a dozen subscriptions to magazines, professional journals and newsletters; videotapes, DVDs, and music related to autism spectrum disorders. We stay informed on the latest materials available and strive to keep the library current.

### **Catalogs**

We hold many recent catalogs that include sensory integration, reading materials, educational, and developmental products.

### **Sensory Integration**

Not sure if you want to buy a piece of sensory equipment? Come to the library and check out a sensory item for testing before you buy it.

All materials have been entered into our library database and the contents are easily searchable to help you find what you need. Books may be borrowed for three weeks at a time; excluding journals, reference works, and magazines, which must remain in the library.

### **If You Go**

Autistic Services is located in Williamsville on Bryant Stratton Way (¼ mile east of the intersection of Main and Transit near the Eastern Hills Mall).

### 2007 Lending Library Hours

Tuesdays 3:00 – 4:30 pm  
Thursdays 3:00 – 4:30 pm

### Saturday Fall/Winter Schedule

September 8 12:30 – 4:30 pm  
September 22 12:30 – 4:30 pm  
October 13 12:30 – 4:30 pm  
October 20 12:30 – 4:30 pm  
November 3 12:30 – 4:30 pm  
November 10 12:30 – 4:30 pm  
December 15 12:30 – 4:30 pm

If these times aren't convenient for you, weekday appointments can be scheduled as well!

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For additional information: <http://www.autisticservices.org/> -and- <http://www.friendsofasi.com/>

## Some Information ABOUT AUTISM

Autism Spectrum Disorders are complex developmental disabilities that typically appear during the first three years of life. Challenges are found in communication, learning and social functioning. There is great variation in the degree of impairment in these areas. The autism spectrum disorders include Autistic Disorder; Asperger's Disorder; Childhood Disintegrative Disorder (CDD); Rett's Disorder; Pervasive Developmental Disorder-Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS). There is no known single cause for autism, but it is generally accepted by the medical community that it is caused by abnormalities in brain structure or function.

Every person with autism is an individual, and like all individuals, has a unique personality and combination of characteristics. Intellectual functioning in individuals with autism presents an extreme range, from mild to profound. The various forms of autism spectrum disorders may be accompanied by other conditions such as hyperactivity, anxiety, depression, epilepsy, Tourette's Syndrome, etc.

Autism and other PDD's transcend racial, ethnic, social, and geographic backgrounds. However, it is more common in males than in females, by a ratio of about 4:1.



Treatment often focuses on improving functional language and social skills, reduction of tension and anxiety, sensory integration, therapeutic methods for maintaining routines or coping with change, and community integration.

The demands of raising a child with autism oftentimes are great. Recognizing and preparing for the challenges will make a tremendous difference to all involved, including the parents, siblings, grandparents, extended family, and friends. ASI's Lending Resource Library maintains a wealth of information on autism spectrum disorders. We are here to assist you as you learn and grow with your child.

## Autistic Services, Inc.'s MISSION STATEMENT

Autistic Services, Inc. is a voluntary operated agency that is committed to the provision of specialized services for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. These disorders include: Autism, Pervasive Developmental Disorder - Not Otherwise Specified, Childhood Disintegrative Disorder, Rett's Syndrome, and Asperger's Syndrome.

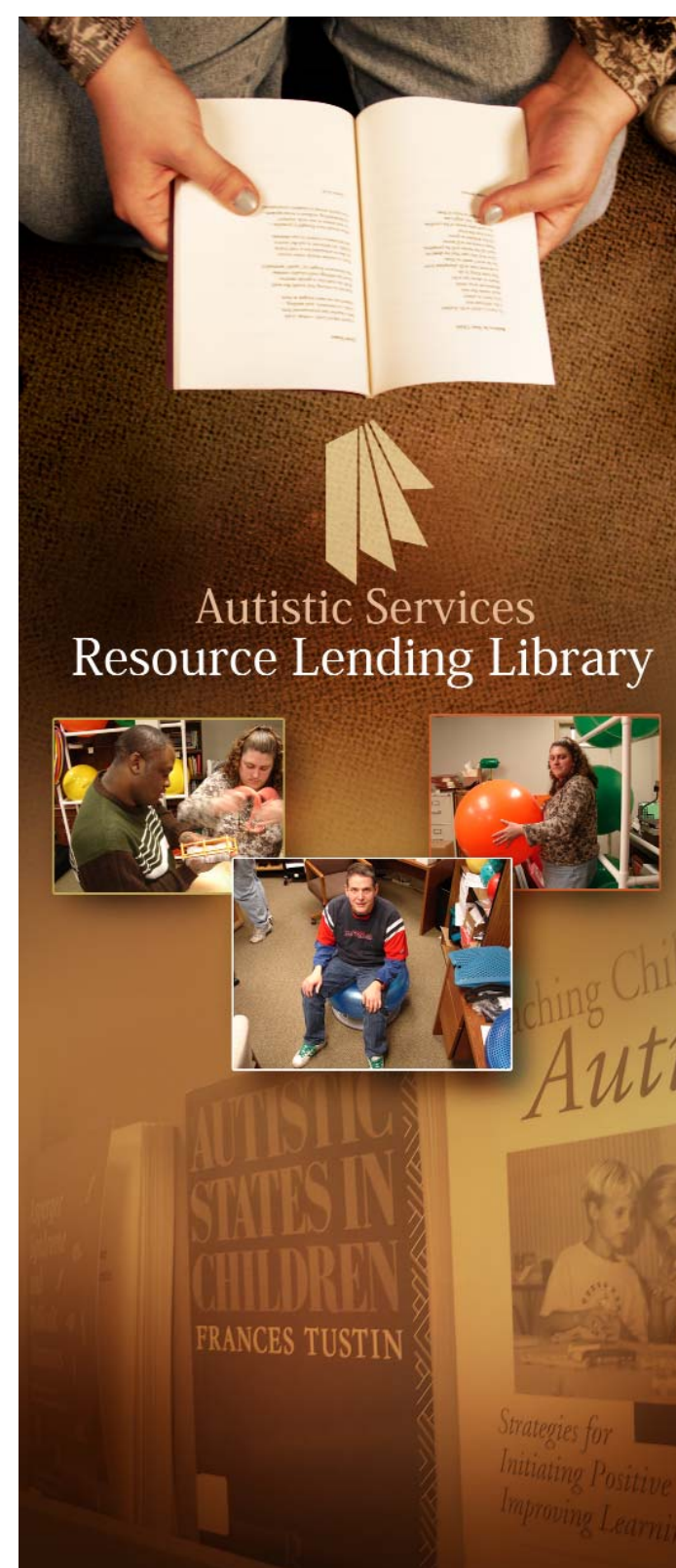
Since its founding in 1982, Autistic Services, Inc. has endeavored to enhance the state of awareness of the condition of autism in society, and to improve the lives of individuals with autism by providing humane and effective services and support.

Autistic Services, Inc.'s continued mission objectives are:

- To develop and promote meaningful educational opportunities in order to support advancement in all areas of functioning, and to value independence at its highest level.
- To assist individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families in development and attainment of personal goals and objectives.
- To promote societal awareness of the nature of autism spectrum disorders, and to advance the educational, vocational, and cultural opportunities of individuals with autism.
- To advance the inclusion of individuals with autism spectrum disorders in the more general population of society, and to promote the normalization of the roles adopted therein.
- To uphold the rights of individuals with autism spectrum disorders, and to ensure the effective and appropriate provision of services.



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## Lending Library

# SENSORY TOOLS

While there is no cure for autism, there are treatment approaches that may reduce some of the challenges. A variety of interventions can help to promote positive behaviors. But just as there is no one symptom or behavior that identifies someone with autism, there is also no single treatment. Any treatment option must be tailored to the person's individual behaviors and needs.



Therapy Balls promote vestibular learning

Many individuals with autism have difficulty processing sensory information. Sensory experiences include touch, movement, body awareness, sight, sound, and the pull of gravity. The process of the brain organizing and interpreting this information is called sensory integration. Sensory integration provides a crucial foundation for later, more complex learning and behavior.

For most people, sensory integration develops in the course of ordinary childhood activities. Motor planning ability is a natural outcome of the process, as is the ability to adapt to incoming sensations. But for many with autism, sensory integration does not develop as efficiently as it should. When the process is disordered, a number of problems in learning, development, or behavior may become evident.



The Body Sox help teach spatial relationships

Utilizing sensory items and occupational therapy tools can help the individual with autism learn to accept and tolerate the various sensory input one encounters throughout the day. Determining which item will work best for an individual can take time, and can also strain financial resources. Our library maintains an inventory of the most popular and effective tools that families can borrow to try out with their children before they purchase the item on their own. In this way, we can assist the family in finding effective treatment options for their child and help prevent unnecessary financial burdens on the family.



Weighted Items assist with proprioception

## Lending Library

# RESOURCE MATERIALS

Our Lending Library maintains a selection of books, professional journals, newsletters, videotapes, DVDs and music related to autism spectrum disorders. We stay informed on the latest materials available and strive to keep the library current.

All materials have been entered into our library database and the contents are easily searchable to help you find what you need. Books may be borrowed for 3 weeks at a time; excluding journals, reference works and magazines which must remain in the library. Below are some examples of topics and titles that can be found in our library.

### TOPIC AREAS

Autism • Social Skills • Asperger's Syndrome  
Sensory Integration • Behavioral Approaches  
Teaching Strategies

### VIDEO/DVD

Connecting Emotions • Connecting Body Movement  
The Out-of-Sync Child

### MUSIC CDS

The Mozart Effect series • Sound Health Series

### MAGAZINES

Autism Digest • Autism Advocate • Spectrum  
Exceptional Parent

### JOURNALS

Autism • A Focus on Autism and Other  
Developmental Disabilities

The above is only a **sample** of what can be found in our Lending Resource Library.

## Autistic Services, Inc.'s

# PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Autistic Services, Inc. is committed to a group of core objectives in treating, educating, and caring for individuals with autism spectrum disorders. These are: independence at its highest level, development and attainment of personal goals and objectives, maximizing educational, vocational, and cultural opportunities and societal inclusion and normalization.

In accordance with our effort to strive for and meet these objectives for individuals at any age, at any functioning level, and at any point on the autism spectrum, the agency maintains several core programs and related services. The programs we offer include: Adult Day Habilitation, Supplemental Day Habilitation, Residential Services, Family Support Services (Medicaid Service Coordination, Respite, Therapeutic Recreation for Autistic Children (TRAC), After School and Vacation Camp Program), NYS-Certified 12 month Education Program, Supported Employment and Community Outreach. Many of our programs are also enhanced by clinical supports in behavior, occupational therapy and speech therapy. We also offer enrichment programs featuring art, music and creative movement activities.

Autistic Services, Inc. also promotes self-advocacy among all individuals. Self-advocacy is speaking and acting on behalf of your own rights. We maintain two Self-Advocacy Groups, who meet monthly to promote the idea that individuals with developmental challenges are able to speak on their own behalf. Groups discuss current issues, upcoming events, any special interests and work to organize fundraisers for group outings.

The caring professionals and staff are not bound by any particular philosophy or treatment style. A pragmatic approach is adopted, where each individual's strengths and needs are assessed. We work according to these individual assessments in order to best prepare each person for the world.

Autistic Services, Inc. has been serving the WNY autism community since 1982 and our programs and services will continue to grow as we learn more about meeting the needs of those with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

A special thanks to  
***The Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo***  
for their financial contribution which allowed us to purchase the initial inventory of sensory equipment for the library.

Thank you also to  
***The John R. Oishei Foundation***  
for their continued support of our MSE programs.