

# Autism on the Web

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) are a group of complex neurological developmental disabilities that are characterized by problems with communication, social interaction, and patterns of interest and behavior. Symptoms of autism may range from mild to severe. ASDs affect all social classes, races, and ethnic groups. Today, 1 in 150 children is diagnosed with autism - affecting four times more boys than girls.

If you know someone who has been diagnosed with autism and would like to learn more, visit the PaTTAN website at: [pattan.net/teachlead/autism.aspx](http://pattan.net/teachlead/autism.aspx). The following list of web resources may also help.

1 in 150



**Pennsylvania  
Department of  
Education**

*Bureau of Special Education*

*Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network*

## **ASPEN**

[www.aspennj.org](http://www.aspennj.org)

ASPEN provides information to families and individuals whose lives are affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders and Nonverbal Learning Disabilities. It also provides education, support, and advocacy.

## **Association for Behavior Analysis International**

[www.abainternational.org](http://www.abainternational.org)

The Association for Behavior Analysis International is a nonprofit professional membership organization with the mission to develop, enhance, and support the growth and vitality of behavior analysis through research, education, and practice. Behavior analysis is often used in applying behavior change principles to enhance the quality of life for an individual with ASD.

## **Autism Society of America**

[www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)

This website is considered to be the voice of the autism community. It is geared to individuals with autism, parents, family members, friends, professionals, and other interested advocates. The Society and its chapters share a common mission of providing information and education, supporting research, and advocating for programs and services for the autism community.

## **Autism TV**

[www.autism.tv](http://www.autism.tv)

This site provides links to websites containing video and audio files on autism.

## **Council for Exceptional Children**

[www.cec.sped.org](http://www.cec.sped.org)

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and the gifted.

## **Cure Autism Now**

[www.cureautismnow.org](http://www.cureautismnow.org)

Cure Autism Now (CAN) is an organization of parents, clinicians, and leading scientists committed to accelerating the pace of biomedical research in autism through raising money for research projects, education, and outreach. It is the largest provider of support for autism research and resources in the country.

## **do2learn**

[www.do2learn.com](http://www.do2learn.com)

This site provides free information and special learning tools about visual strategies and resources for students. Resources include games, songs, communication cards, print resources, and information for special needs.

## **National Institute of Child Health and Human Development**

[www.nichd.nih.gov](http://www.nichd.nih.gov)

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development is a division of the National Institutes of Health (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services). The Institute conducts and supports research on all stages of human development, from preconception to adulthood, to better understand the health of children, adults, families, and communities.

## **Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, Services for Pennsylvanians With Disabilities**

[www.dpw.state.pa.us/Disable/](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/Disable/)

This website assists families in accessing helpful information related to various disabilities, including Autism Spectrum Disorders.

## **Pennsylvania First Signs**

[www.firstsigns.org/programs/pa.htm](http://www.firstsigns.org/programs/pa.htm)

First Signs is dedicated to the early identification of and intervention for children with developmental delays and disorders. It provides links to articles in the press and web-related disability resources in Pennsylvania.

## **Special Education Resources on the Internet**

<http://seriweb.com>

Special Education Resources on the Internet (SERI) is a collection of Internet accessible resources related to special education. It was created to make online special education resources more easily and readily available in one location.

## **TEACCH**

[www.teacch.com](http://www.teacch.com)

The TEACCH approach focuses on the person with autism and the development of a program around this person's skills, interests, and needs. The major priorities include focusing on the individual child's needs, understanding autism, adopting appropriate adaptations, and building on the child's existing skills and interests.

## **United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs**

[www.ed.gov/parents/needs/speced/resources.html](http://www.ed.gov/parents/needs/speced/resources.html)

The United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs offers information to parents of students with special learning needs.

## **WrightsLaw**

[www.wrightsLaw.com](http://www.wrightsLaw.com)

WrightsLaw provides accurate, reliable information about special education law, and advocacy for children with disabilities. It has thousands of articles, cases, and free resources on a wide variety of topics.

## **Wrong Planet**

[www.wrongplanet.net](http://www.wrongplanet.net)

Wrong Planet is a web community designed for individuals (and parents of those) with Asperger's Syndrome, Autism, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders. It provides a forum where members can communicate with each other, an article section where members may read and submit essays or how-to guides on various topics, and a chat room for real-time communication.

## **Yale Developmental Disabilities Clinic**

[www.med.yale.edu/chldstudy/autism/pddinfo.html](http://www.med.yale.edu/chldstudy/autism/pddinfo.html)

The Yale Developmental Disabilities Clinic website provides information about Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Pervasive Developmental Disorders, Rett's Disorder, and other disorders.

## **For more information contact your local PaTTAN office:**

[www.pattan.net](http://www.pattan.net)

PaTTAN King of Prussia 800-441-3215; 610-265-7321; 610-768-9723 TTY

PaTTAN Harrisburg 800-360-7282; 717-541-4960; 800-654-5984 TTY

PaTTAN Pittsburgh 800-446-5607; 412-826-2336; 412-826-2338 TTY