

Collection of Online Learning Activities

Autism Spectrum Disorder and Behavioural Interventions



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Prepared by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) for the purposes of professional learning. The document contains a collection of free evidence-based resources from external sites and organizations. This document may be redistributed and shared. To suggest additions of other sources of evidence-based information pertaining to Autism Spectrum Disorder and behavioural interventions, please contact Autism Learning Partnership at alp_paa@gnb.ca.

Introduction

The mission of the Autism Learning Partnership (ALP) branch of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is to deliver high quality, evidence-based training to professionals and families that promotes a common understanding of autism and skill development to help learners with autism reach their full potential.

If you do an Internet search for autism treatments or autism interventions, you will find millions of results. While you may find high quality information, you will also find information that has been shown to be unproven, ineffective or even harmful. To help individuals navigate through this sea of information, this document features some of the most relevant and up to date sources of information which are accessible online for everyone, free of charge. We have sorted through these resources to recommend those that have been proven to be effective by science.

In this document, you will find:

- Learning modules
- Webinars and informational videos facilitated by experts
- Articles and other reading materials
- Instructions on how to access each resource
- Websites including resources and learning sections

While most resources are appropriate for all school-based personnel (such as administrators, teachers, resource teachers, educational assistants, and district-based staff) and family members, certain topics would be more appropriate for someone who received an advanced training in applied behaviour analysis (ABA). Therefore, those topics are identified as an advanced topic.

We hope you enjoy exploring these resources.

Autism Learning Partnership

The Autism Learning Partnership team at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has created webinars on the following topics in both English and French. The following videos are on our YouTube channel. Subscribe to receive notifications when new webinars are released.

- [Reinforcement: The Key to Learning and Teaching](#) (50 min)
- [Myth Busting: ABA and Its Everyday Uses](#) (45 min)

Follow us on our Facebook page for articles and other helpful resources: [Autism Learning Partnership](#)

APSEA Autism in Education an Atlantic Partnership

The [Autism In Education: An Atlantic Partnership](#) emerged from a common belief of the Deputy Ministers of Education and Early Childhood Development of New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, along with the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority (APSEA), that the partner provinces could benefit from a collaborative relationship in the provision of services to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

As part of this inter-provincial collaboration, several resources have been created and guest speakers have been invited to share best practices in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The following topics are recommended:

AIE Webinar and Presentations: AIE Talk (Approximately 45 min each)

- [Using iPad Technology to Support Students with ASD](#) by Barry Hicks
- [Current Research Regarding Time-out](#) by Shelley McLean
- [Social Skills Training for Elementary Students on the Autism Spectrum](#) by Jill McMullin

AIE Webinar and Presentations: Professional Webinars (Approximately 1h- 1.5h each)

- [Augmentative and Alternative Communication \(AAC\) - Part 1](#) by Marie Stirling
- [Bilingualism and students with ASD: A world with possibilities](#) by Dr. Tamara Sorenson Duncan, Dr. Isabel Smith, Dr. Elizabeth Kay-Raining Bird
- [Meditation, Mindfulness, and Behaviour](#) by Gianna Biscontini
- [Sexuality Education for Persons with ASD and Intellectual Disabilities \(Part One\)](#) by Annamarie Talbot
- [Sexuality Education for Persons with ASD and Intellectual Disabilities \(Part Two\)](#) by Annamarie Talbot
- [Selection of Function-Based Interventions for Negatively Reinforced Problem Behaviour](#) by Dr. Linda LeBlanc (advanced topic)
- [Effective Sexuality Education for Learners with ASD and Diverse Needs](#) by Dr. Jason Travers
- [Unstuck & On Target!](#) by Dr. Lauren Kenworthy
- [When Problem Behaviour is Nobody's Fault: The Truth about Automatically Reinforced Behaviour](#) by Dr. Timothy Vollmer (advanced topic)

AIE Webinar and Presentations: AIE Symposium Presentations

- [Anxiety in Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder](#) by Dr. Pat Friman (approximately 4.5 hours)
- [Teaching Executive Functions & Complex Language and Cognition Skills](#) by Dr. Jonathan Tarbox (approximately 4.5 hours)

Take Flight Video Series

A collection of 15-20 min videos featuring practical examples, and strategies, and a printable resource for each video. Themes include:

- Reinforcement
- Behavioural Skills Training for Learners
- Behavioural Skills Training for Staff

Information Papers and Research Snapshots

Autism in Education also provides information papers on topics including:

- [Teaching Essential Skills to Prevent the Development of Challenging Behaviours](#)
- [Current Research Regarding Time-Out](#)
- [Transition to School for Learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder](#)
- [Sensory Differences and Autism Spectrum Disorder: Information Paper](#) and [Research Snapshot](#)

Autism Internet Modules

[Autism Internet Modules](#) offers a large selection of free modules on a variety of topics pertaining to Autism Spectrum Disorder and evidence-based interventions. New topics have been added in the past few years.

To access the modules, you first need to create a username and password at [Autism Internet Modules Registration](#).

Once you have logged in, go to the Dashboard. Select Browse Alphabetically and then choose the desired module.

While there are many different modules offered, the following are recommended.

- Antecedent-Based Interventions (ABI) (2 hours)
- Response Interruption and Redirection (2 hours)
- Rules and Routines (1 hour)
- The Incredible 5 Point Scale (30 minutes)
- Transitioning Between Activities (1 hour)
- Video Modeling (1.5 hours)
- Visual Supports (1.5 hours)
- Functional Behaviour Assessment (1.5 hours)
- Functional Communication Training (1.5 hours)
- Peer Mediated Instruction and Intervention (2 hours)
- Social Skills Groups (1.5 hours)
- Emotional Vulnerability (1 hour)*
- Language and Communication (1.5 hours)*
- Using Special Interests in the Classroom (1 hour)*
- Speech-Generating Devices (1 hour)*
- Restricted Patterns of Behaviour, Interests and Activities (2 hours)*
- Cognitive Differences (2 hours)*
- Picture Exchange Communication System (2 hours)*
- Social Narratives (1 hour)*
- Structured Work Systems and Activity Organization (1 hour)*

*Recently added to this list

Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules

[Autism Focused Intervention Resource and Modules \(AFIRM\)](#) offers a large selection of free modules on a variety of topics pertaining to Autism Spectrum Disorder and evidence-based interventions. Each module includes a post-assessment to ensure comprehension of the materials, and a certificate of completion for your personal use.

If you have not already done so, you will need to create a username and password to access the material at the [AFIRM Registration site](#).

Once you have logged in, go to AFIRM Modules. Select the desired module.

The following modules are recommended:

- COVID-19 Toolkit (30 minutes)*
- Exercise (1.5-2 hours)
- Functional Communication Training (1.5-2 hours)
- Modeling (1.5-2 hours)
- Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) (2.5-3 hours)
- Prompting (2.5-3 hours)
- Reinforcement (2.5-3 hours)
- Social Skills Training (1.5-2 hours)
- Time Delay (1.5-2 hours)
- Video Modeling (1.5-2 hours)
- Scripting (1.5-2 hours)*
- Technology-aided Instruction and Intervention (2-2.5 hours)*

*Recently added to this list

In collaboration with other organizations, AFIRM published a great document on how to support children and young adults with autism: [Supporting Individuals with Autism through Uncertain Times](#).

Center on Secondary Education for Students with ASD

The [Center on Secondary Education for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder](#) provides case studies of the implementation of evidence-based practices in the high school context. Each case study is approximately 30-45 minutes in length. Each topic includes videos and intervention handouts. Each page topic follows the same format and is accessed from the website's homepage.

The following case studies are recommended:

- Visual Supports
- Prompting
- Self-Management
- Reinforcement
- Time Delay
- Video Modeling

VCU Autism Center for Excellence

The [Virginia Commonwealth University Autism Center for Excellence](#) offers a large selection of free presentations on a variety of topics pertaining to Autism Spectrum Disorder and evidence-based interventions.

Starting from the menu tool bar, select Training & Education > Webcasts > Archived Webcasts. Find the video you would like watch, open the link and click on View.

You will be directed to a screen where you:

1. Select the state of Virginia and click on Register.
2. In the School division selection field, select Private Provider / N.A. / Other.
3. In the Your role selection field, select Other.
4. Complete the other fields.
5. Click the box Save my responses for future visits (if desired) and click Register.

The following presentations are recommended:

- Using Visual Supports to Teach Students with ASD Across Environments by Amy Horne, Tracey Phillips, Nancy Sorrentino
- Understanding Challenging Behaviors and the Need for Social Skills Training Part 2 by Jed Baker, Ph.D.
- No More Meltdowns by Jed Baker, Ph.D.- Part 1
- Introduction to the Hidden Curriculum - Part 1 by Brenda Smith Myles
- Introduction to the Hidden Curriculum - Part 2 by Brenda Smith Myles
- Understanding and Supporting the Mental Health Needs of Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders*

* Recently added to this list

Organization for Autism Research

The Organization for Autism Research has developed a four-part presentation entitled Understanding Autism: A Guide for Secondary School Teachers. It is an excellent presentation for educational personnel working with a student with ASD in a high school context.

- [Autism Documentary: A Guide for Secondary School Teachers - Part 1](#)
- [Autism Documentary: A Guide for Secondary School Teachers - Part 2](#)
- [Autism Documentary: A Guide for Secondary School Teachers - Part 3](#)
- [Autism Documentary: A Guide for Secondary School Teachers - Part 4](#)

Videos are 12 to 18 minutes long.

Autism at-a-Glance

[Autism at-a-Glance](#) offers a large selection of publications on a variety of topics pertaining to Autism Spectrum Disorder and evidence-based interventions. This series of practitioner and family-friendly documents was created by the Center on Secondary Education for Students with ASD and designed for high school staff members supporting students on the autism spectrum, as well as family members of adolescents with ASD. The purpose of the Autism at-a-Glance series is to provide a current summary of topics relevant to high school students with ASD as well as practical tips and resources for school and community personnel and family members.

The following publications are recommended:

- Supporting Success and Safety in Relationships
- Exercise for Adolescents with ASD
- Depression in Adolescents with ASD
- Supporting Communication in High School
- Supporting Functional Communication in High School
- Hygiene in Adolescents with ASD
- Puberty in Adolescents with ASD
- Internet Safety in Adolescents with ASD
- Building Healthy Habits for Adolescents with ASD
- Anxiety in Adolescents with ASD
- Supporting Success and Safety in Relationships*
- Building Healthy Habits for Adolescents with ASD*
- Supporting Healthy Sleep Habits in Adolescents*
- Supporting Independence in Daily Living Skills*

*Recently added to this list

Western Michigan University - Autism Center of Excellence

The [Autism Center of Excellence](#) at Western Michigan University has developed a series of online interviews and videos, featuring international experts, related to Autism Spectrum Disorder and interventions based on the science of applied behaviour analysis.

The following videos are recommended:

- Teaching Social Skills to Individuals with Autism by Mary Jane Weiss (1 hour)
- Stimulus Preference Assessment by Willie DeLeon (1 hour, 40 mins) (advanced topic)