

Helping your Students Understand Autism

Below are a range of range of books that students, teachers and families can use to learn more about Autism.

Books for Students

Help your students better understand Autism with the following books that gently inform children about both the difficulties and strengths of Autism. Several of these books may also give adults new insights.



Carlos the Chameleon by Alice Reeves (2018)

Aimed at children aged 4–8, Carlos learns it is okay to be different and you do not have to change who you are to be accepted. This story helps empower all children to be themselves.



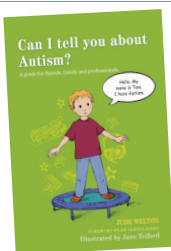
Sometimes Noise is Big: Life with Autism by Angela Coelho (2017)

In this book, the sensory world is explained through the eyes of a child. The simple text and illustrations make some complex issues comprehensible for children, from the age of around five.



Tomas Loves... A Rhyming Book About Fun, Friendship – and Autism by Jude Welton (2015)

A fun introduction to Autism for young readers from early childhood. It captures the world of Tomas, a little boy who loves trains, rhyming words and his dog Flynn, and hates loud noises and surprises.



Can I Tell You About Autism? A Guide for Friends, Family and Professionals by Jude Welton (2014)

Tom invites readers to learn about Autism from his perspective. Recommended for readers aged 7 and upwards, this illustrated book also includes clear, useful information for parents and professionals.

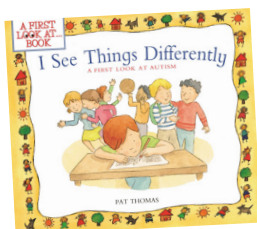


Blue Bottle Mystery – An Asperger Adventure by Kathy Hoopman (first published 2001; available in audio and e-book since 2015)

Although targeted at readers about 8 or 9 years old, the language is simple enough to be understood by younger children and the plot provides sufficient depth that it could be enjoyed by any age. Described as an educational adventure, it provides an apt explanation of what Autism entails through an exciting, fun story.

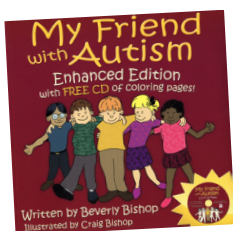


Other Informative Books for Students, Teachers and Families



I See Things Differently: A First Look at Autism by Pat Thomas (2014)

This book helps young children better understand and support classmates or siblings who have Autism. It is easily accessible for ages 6–8, with full colour illustrations on every page. See the pages being turned and hear a reading of the entire book on YouTube, as well as being able to obtain the book in print from various suppliers.



My Friend with Autism by Beverley Bishop (originally 2002; available in enhanced edition with free CD of colouring pages since 2011)

Designed for anyone being introduced to Autism, a peer narrator explains in a positive way that their friend with Autism is good at some things and not so good at others – just like everyone else. Issues addressed include sensory sensitivity, communication differences, desire for sameness and lots more. End notes for adults supplement the text with facts and explanations to further inform teachers and parents. Obtainable from multiple sources online including Amazon, this book can also be heard and seen on YouTube.

This content has been extracted from the Autism Association of WA's Autism Heroes Publication.

Designed with the Australian National Curriculum in mind, the Autism Heroes Education Pack contains lesson plans, a video and worksheets for students in Years 3–6. It also includes a range of resources that are designed to help you prepare and deliver the pack and to support understanding of Autism within your school. To find out more about this pack, or to purchase a copy visit: <https://autismheroes.autism.org.au/>