Welcome to SPN101

The goal of this course is to introduce participants to autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and the characteristics of children who are diagnosed with these disorders. With a clearer understanding of autism and its associated disorders, providers will be better prepared to work with children of all ability levels.

Course Objectives:

By taking notes on the handout and successfully answering assessment questions, participants will meet the following objectives as a result of taking this course:

- Define autism spectrum disorder
- Identify diagnostic criteria associated with autism spectrum disorder
- Identify the characteristics commonly associated with autism spectrum disorder, including information regarding affected groups, causes, and treatments
- Define the role of the caregiver in successfully supporting children with autism spectrum disorder and their families, including issues related to enrollment and classroom accommodations
- Apply knowledge of appropriate classroom strategies using case studies presenting children with a range of autism spectrum disorder
- Demonstrate understanding of the possible affects of autism spectrum disorder on a range of developmental domains, including cognitive, physical, and social skills

References:


Additional Resources

The Autism Society of America: www.autism-society.org
Talk about Curing Autism: www.talkaboutcuringautism.org
Autism Research Institute: www.defeatautismnow.com/
Wright’s Law: www.wrightslaw.com/info/autism.index.htm
Autism Speaks: www.autismspeaks.org
Association for Science in Autism Treatment: www.asatonline.org
Autism National Committee: www.autcom.org
National Institute for Child Health and Human Development: www.nichd.nih.gov

What is Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Important Fact

*Autism spectrum disorder (ASD)* is
Define *spectrum* as it relates to autism:

**Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders**

What is the name of the tool doctors refer to when making a diagnosis of ASD?

**Diagnostic Criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorder**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5. At least 2 of the following ________________________________:

**Diagnostic Criteria for Social Communication Disorder**

1.

2.

3.

4. All of the following ________________________________:
Facts about Autism Spectrum Disorder

Prevalence
______ in _________ children has a diagnosis of ASD.

Who Is Affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Causes of Autism Spectrum Disorder
What are some of the possible causes of ASD?

Treatments for Autism Spectrum Disorder

Is there a cure for ASD?

Provide a brief description of each of the following types of ASD treatment:

Applied Behavioral Analysis

Speech and Language Therapy

Occupational or Sensory Integration Therapy

Social Skills Therapy

Diets and Medication
The Child Care Provider’s Role
What should you do if you suspect a child in your center has a disability?

Making enrollment decisions
Can you refuse to enroll the child? Explain.

Making Adaptations to the Environment

General Classroom Recommendations
Explain in your own words how each of the following strategies or teaching strategies can benefit a child with an ASD.

Consistency

Anticipating Behavioral Triggers

The Importance of Peer Interactions
Don’t Forget Motor Skills

Cognitive Potential