Lesson Plan Understanding Autism at School



ABN: 79 253 351 418 **AUTISMQLD.COM.AU**

#ShowYourTrueColours

Grade Level: Primary School (Ages 5-12)

Lesson Duration: 30-45 minutes

Lesson Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- Understand what autism is in simple terms.
- Recognise that autistic student may think, communicate, and experience the world differently.
- Learn ways to be kind, inclusive, and supportive of their autistic peers.

Lesson Structure

1. Introduction (10 minutes) – What is Autism?

Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever heard the word "autism"? What do you think it means?
- How do we all have unique strengths?

Watch & Discuss:

Xideo Option: "Amazing Things Happen" (4:18 min) – <u>YouTube Link</u>

• Discuss: What did you learn about autism? How do autistic people experience the world differently?

2. Choose an activity:

A. How Do Our Senses Work?

Autistic people can experience sights, sounds, and textures differently. Let's explore how this might feel.

Touch Sensitivity:

- Pass around different textured objects (smooth, rough, soft).
- Ask: Which ones do you like or dislike?

Key Takeaway: Some people experience sensory input more strongly or less than others, and that's okay!



B. How to Be a Good Friend

Discussion: How can we support and include autistic classmates?

- Be patient if someone needs more time to respond.
- Use kind words and respect different ways of communicating.
- Accept that some friends like quiet time or playing in their own way.
- C. Create a worksheet: "Everyone is Different, and That's Amazing!"
- Draw or write about what makes you unique.
- Write one thing you can do to help make school a welcoming place for all students.

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