

More Able People with ASD

By Gary Mesibov, Ph.D.



PDD

```
graph TD; PDD --- Bar; Bar --- AUTISM; Bar --- PDD_NOS[PDD-NOS]; Bar --- ASPERGER;
```

AUTISM

PDD-NOS

ASPERGER

PDD = Autism Spectrum Disorder

Kanner & Asperger

ESSENCE OF ASPERGER

1. Socially odd, naïve, inappropriate, detached - subtle problems
2. Less sensitive to others' feelings
3. Better language - good grammar, extensive vocabularies, fluent speech, but long-winded, pedantic, literal, more monologues than reciprocal, comprehension problems
4. Poor nonverbal communication, monotonous or peculiar prosody

ESSENCE OF ASPERGER (continued)

5. Greater self-awareness
6. Poor motor coordination & organization
7. Lack of common sense - reasoning
8. More narrow intense interests
9. Strong routines - resistance to change
10. Concrete & literal
11. Average or above average IQ but problems in school

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM

- Visual Thinkers & Processors
- Receptive Language Problems
- Single Channeled
- Problems Switching Attention
- Concrete & Literal
- Problem with Larger Picture—Relevance
- Organization

1. EDUCATIONAL ADAPTATIONS

1. Size of Assignments
2. Time for Completion
3. Input—How Delivered, e.g. Outlines-Visual
4. Output—e.g., Dictate
5. Difficulty Level, e.g. Calculator for Math
6. Level of participation—e.g., Listen—Follow Outline
7. Level of Support—1-1 or What
8. Alternate Goals
9. Substitute Curriculum

Psychological

1. Anxiety and Anger Management

- Relaxation
- Understanding
- Practice

2. Social

- Skills
- Part of Valued Group
- Friends
- Social Experiences

Psychological (continued)

3. Personal
 - Understanding Self
 - What Autism Means to Me
4. Self Efficacy
5. Learned Optimism

More Able People with ASD

By Gary Mesibov, Ph.D.

