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Autism Spectrum Disorder: Evidence-Based Practices

Notes:	 	 	



Description:

In the first Module in this series, Autism Spectrum Disorder: An Overview for Educators,

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Notes:		 		



Description:

we introduced you to four young people: Drew, Jaquese, David, and Michelle. Each has different strengths and faces different challenges. Let's look in again now to see how each of them is doing.





Description:

Recall that four-year-old Drew prefers to spend his free time playing by himself





Description:

and throws tantrums when his teacher attempts to redirect him.

Notes:			
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Though his teacher has had some recent success in increasing Drew's participation in group activities,

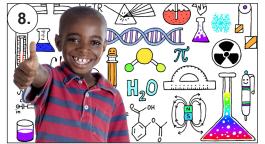
Notes:	 	 	 	



Description:

he frequently lapses into his former behaviors, especially during activities like dramatic play where he is required to more directly interact with his peers.

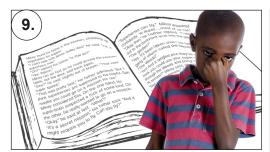
Notes: _			



Description:

Ten-year-old Jaquese loves math and science

Notes:			



Description:

but struggles with reading comprehension.

Notes:			



Description:

His obsession with super hero stories

Notes:	 	 	



both impedes classroom instruction and isolates Jaquese from his peers.

Notes:	 	 	 	



Description:

Over the past months, Jaquese has improved his reading skills, though he tends to do better when he is reading something he likes.

Notes:				



Description:

For non-preferred subjects, for example social studies, he has a more difficult time

Notes:			



Description:

and sometimes attempts to avoid his class work by yelling out some of his favorite super hero catch-phrases like

Notes:			



Description:

"Shazam!"

Notes:			



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or "Up, up, and away!"

Notes:	 		



Description:

Two-and-a-half-year-old David avoids other children, preferring instead to play by himself and in his own unique way.

Notes:			
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Description:

His issues with communication often cause him to throw tantrums or to hurl his toys.

Notes:				











Description:

When we saw him last, David was learning the Picture Exchange Communication System, or PECS, though he had only begun to do so.

Notes:			



Description:

Now that he has had more time with PECS, David's communication skills have increased. He is better able to communicate with his parents and teachers.

Notes:			



However, David continues to prefer to play by himself, and he struggles to express more complicated wants or needs, which sometimes causes him to act out.

Notes:		 	

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Description:

More, David's tendency to avoid foods with textures he does not like has continued.

Notes:			



Description:

Lastly, there's Michelle, a bright and funny fifteen-year-old tenth grader with a good memory and a fondness for subjects related to outer space.

Notes:			



Description:

Though she's outgoing and friendly, Michelle has difficulty organizing her time and classroom assignments.

Notes:			



Description:

With some instruction and help from her parents, Michelle has improved her organizational skills, and she has even been able to join her school's science club.

Notes:			



However, this increased interaction has made Michelle's awkward social behaviors more obvious than ever with her peers.

Notes: _			 	



Description:

She continues to struggle with conversation cues, she often makes her peers uncomfortable by violating their personal space, and when seated she rocks distractingly back and forth.



Description:

Each of these four students has made improvements since we saw them last. However, their teachers and families know that there is even more improvement to be made.

Notes:	 		

29. My	Favorite Search Engine
	Autism

Description:

There is a lot of information online about autism, both reliable and unreliable.

Notes:			
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30. My	Favorite Search Engine
	Evidence-Based Practices

Description:

They want to make sure they are using evidence-based practices, or EBPs, but are unsure of where to begin.

Notes:			

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(33.) Here's Your Challenge	Description:	
What do educators need to know about EBPs for children with autism?	What specific strategies can improve outcomes for these children?	
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