



# Neurodiversity in Museums

## Practicing Inclusion for Children with ASD

### What is ASD?

Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication.

### What does ASD Look Like?

Abnormal Tone of Voice.  
Poor Eye Contact.  
Behavioral Issues.  
Stimming, or repetitive motion.  
Speech Delay.  
Difficulty Socializing.

"Autism affects an estimated 1 in 59 children in the U.S. today" ~ CDC

### Tips and Tricks to be Inclusive

- Have a Fidget Basket with things they can touch.
- Dim the lights or turn down the ambient music.
- Offer something interactive instead of a tour, like a scavenger hunt.
- Have comfy alternative seating for story time.
- Train your staff to make these families feel welcome.
- Open early and stay after hours.