



The Autistic Trooper

If everyone in the World were the same, it would be a very boring place. Luckily, everyone in the World is different. This includes Autistic people.

What is Autism (say: AW-tiz-um)?

Those with autism have brains that can be a little different than others. These differences may affect the way they talk, act, or feel. Sometimes it can make it hard for them to understand the world around them.

Some things that might be hard for them can be things like

- Following rules, especially those that don't seem to exist for a good reason
- Loud noises, bright lights, or crowds
- Doing what everyone else does
- Dealing with changes
- Understanding jokes
- Making friends
- Fitting in

Autistic people are often made to feel bad by others because of these differences.

This does not mean autistic people do not like themselves. They are often very proud of who they are and want to be accepted just like everyone else.

Sadly, some people still believe that different means bad and tease or bully autistic people.

YOU CAN HELP

If you know an autistic person

- Be kind
- Be patient
- Stand up for classmates who are bullied.
- Tell adults, so they can help protect kids who are bullied.
- Be a friend, even though it may take a little time for them to understand friendship.

Learn more about autism at:

<https://www.autism.org.uk/>

<https://autism.ie/>

<https://asiam.ie/>

<https://autisticadvocacy.org/>