

# WORLD AUTISM ACCEPTANCE DAY 2025

## Welcome to our Toolkit for World Autism Acceptance Day 2025!

**This toolkit provides a collection of resources, materials, and guidelines designed to support schools in fostering acceptance and understanding of autism on this important day.**

**Together, we can create a more inclusive and supportive world for autistic individuals!**

### **What is Autism?**

**Autism is a way that some people's brains work, and it's a natural part of how all brains can be different.**

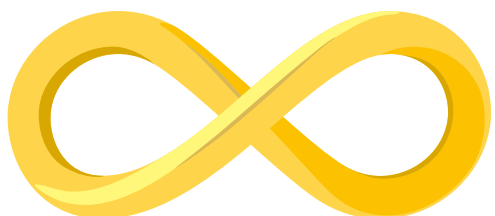
**The many different ways brains work is called neurodiversity—kind of like how people have different eye colors or favourite foods!**

**Autism is one type of neurodiversity. It means a person's brain grows and understands the world in its own special way, sometimes at a different pace than others.**

**Autistic people may need different kinds of support in different parts of their lives. That's why it's important to understand and support each person in the way that works best for them!**

## Colour it GOLD!

Why gold/yellow? The chemical symbol for gold is "Au," just like the first two letters in "autism." Gold stands for value, strength, and being true to yourself—which is what autism acceptance is all about!



The infinity symbol is also an important sign for autism. It shows endless diversity and possibilities! Many autistic people like it better than the puzzle piece because the puzzle piece has been used in ways that make it seem like autistic people are missing something or need to change.

The gold or rainbow infinity symbol celebrates autistic identity, strengths, and neurodiversity—and many autistic-led groups support it as a positive and inclusive symbol!

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## Cool stuff happening!

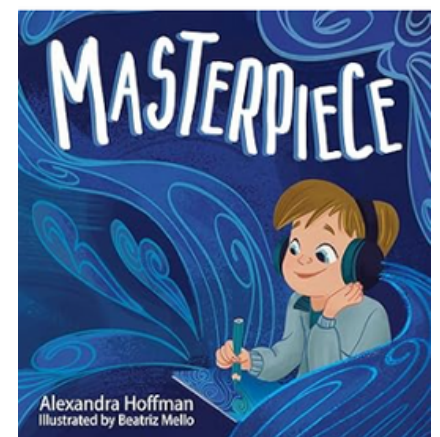
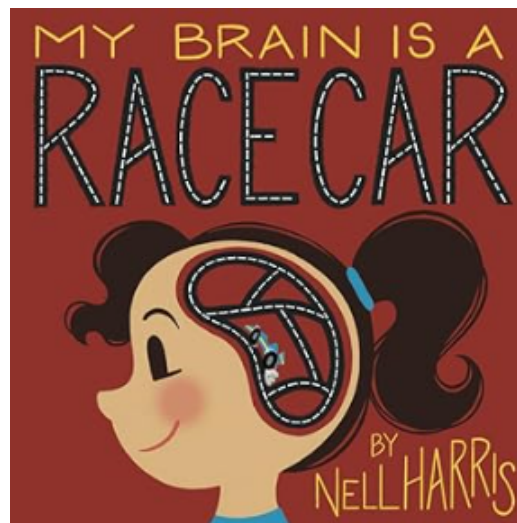
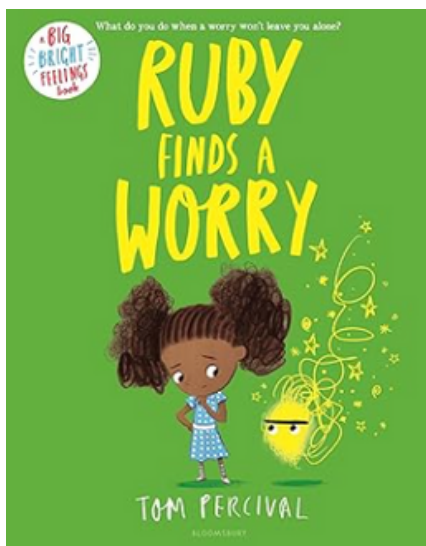
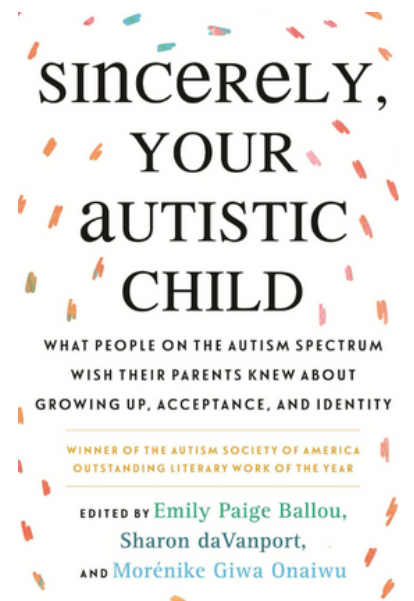
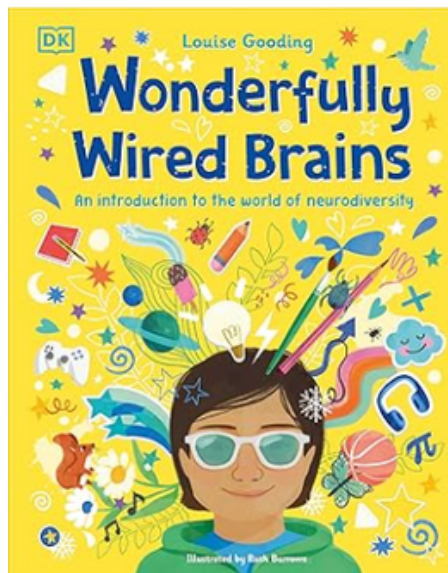
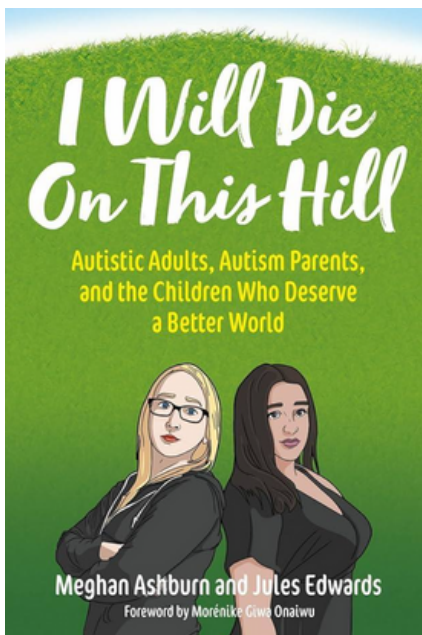
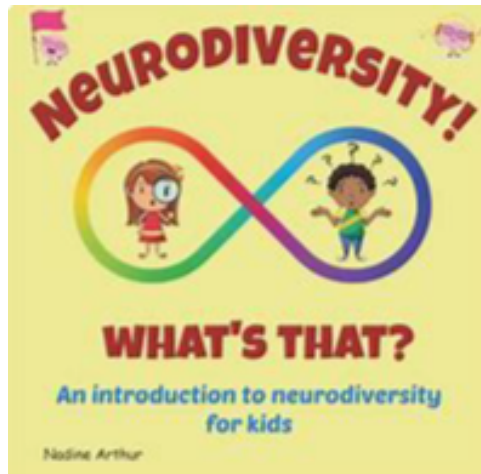
**LEANS**  
Learning About Neurodiversity at School

LEANS (Learning About Neurodiversity at School) is a fun and exciting way to learn about how everyone's brain works differently! LEANS helps individuals understand that differences in thinking and learning are completely normal and that we should all be kind, patient, and supportive of each other.

Through stories, games, and activities, LEANS teaches everyone how to be a great friend and classmate—whether someone is neurodivergent (like autistic, dyslexic, or ADHD) or neurotypical (not neurodivergent). The goal is to make school a place where everyone feels included, respected, and valued for who they are. By learning about neurodiversity, students can work together to make their classroom a fair and friendly place for all!

**Learn more: <https://salvesen-research.ed.ac.uk/leans>**

# Build your own neuroaffirming library!



# Words matter!

**Ally:** Allyship is more than being a good friend. Allies listen to their autistic peers and validate autistic experiences. Allies stand up for their autistic peers in the classroom, on the playground and in social settings.

**Ableism:** the notion that typical neurology and able bodies are superior. Ableism can be intentional or unintentional, and it includes things like negative attitudes, unfair rules, lack of accessibility, and treating disabled people as if they need to be "fixed" instead of accepted and supported.

**Neurodiversity:** the diversity that exists within the human population regarding neurological differences resulting from normal variations in the human brain.

**Neurodivergent:** people whose brains work in ways that are different from what society considers 'typical,' such as autistics, ADHDers, or those with learning disabilities like dyslexia and dysgraphia etc.

**Neurotypical:** A person who does not exhibit neurological differences. Abbreviated "NT."



NL Schools can support Active for Autism which raises awareness and funds for ASNL recreational programs. Walk, run, wheel, jump, get active in the way that works best for you!  
[Complete details on website.](#)

## Want to learn more?

For more resources, a list of ASNL's educational offerings and more visit [www.asnl.ca](http://www.asnl.ca)

**Follow us on social media!**

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