

## Autism Acceptance Month

SPREAD AWARENESS PROMOTE ACCEPTANCE IGNITE CHANGE

# Autism Fact Sheet - Preschool & Elementary

- **Kids with autism are kids, just like you!**
- Kids who have autism are born with autism.
- Autism impacts the way a brain works.
- 1 in 54 kids have autism.
- Kids with autism look like other kids.
- Kids with autism have thoughts and feelings just like you.
- **Every kid with autism is unique** in what they like, what they are good at and the things that might be hard for them.
- Kids with autism may have trouble understanding the world around them.
- Some people with autism talk, and others do not. Just because someone doesn't talk out loud doesn't mean they don't have things to say or share.
- Things like lights and noises bother some kids with autism more than they might bother you.
- Kids with autism may have a hard time talking to other kids and having autism can make it hard to know how to play with other kids.
- Kids with autism like to have friends, they just may not know how to make them as easy as you do.
- **How to be a good friend to someone with autism:**
  - Be patient and kind.
  - Play in a way that includes everyone.
  - Talk like you would to any other kid.
  - Give a high five or fist bump when you're having fun. (Ask first!)
  - Sit together in the lunchroom or the classroom.
  - Be a buddy on the playground or during other activities.
  - Walk together to class or the bus.

