



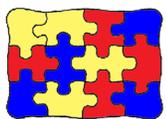
IU® School of Medicine

### About Us:

Fesler Hall (IUPUI Campus)  
1120 South Dr., Ste. 302  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
Phone: 317.274.2675  
Fax: 317.274.3885  
hands@iupui.edu  
www.HANDSinAutism.org

The HANDS in Autism® Interdisciplinary Training & Resource Center is affiliated with the IU School of Medicine. This Center is currently supported in part from grants from IU Health as well as from the Indiana Department of Education. The IDOE funding is to support the HANDS in Autism as one of six Indiana Resource Network resource and training centers designed to provide coordinated technical assistance to schools and communities across the state. Supported also by a number of charitable and philanthropic donations, the HANDS program offers a variety of live and online training opportunities free to educational and medical professionals, service providers, and parents.

**Find us on Facebook,  
Twitter, YouTube, &  
Learning Connection!**



# What is Autism?

People with autism have brains that work differently than yours or mine. They are not sick. You can not catch autism.

Sometimes people with autism may do things that may make you uncomfortable. Things like saying things over and over, acting like they can't hear you, or becoming upset when small things change.

People with autism have strengths and weaknesses just like you. They are good at understanding pictures, paying attention to one thing, learning routines, and playing with people they know well. They have a hard time understanding words, learning a new way to do something, making new friends, and changing from one activity to another.

Most important is that people with autism are people! They are unique, just like you and me. No two people with autism have exactly the same strengths or challenges.

***Turn the page over to do a puzzle about the different pieces of autism.***

# Instructions:

Color in the puzzle pieces with one of the 3 colors.

If the puzzle piece has a **STRENGTH** of people with autism, color it **BLUE**.

If the puzzle piece has a **CHALLENGE** for people with autism, color it **YELLOW**.

If the puzzle piece says something that you **HAVE IN COMMON** with people who have autism, color it **RED**.

