



# AUGLAIZE DD CHILDHOOD & TRANSITION UPDATES

## Tips for Classroom Inclusion

With the school year back in full swing, Auglaize DD's SPEAK (Supporting and Promoting Empowerment & Achievement through Kindness) committee has tips to help make your classroom more inclusive for students with disabilities!

1. **Disability Awareness Groups:** Create groups where students learn about various disabilities, their impact, and respectful interaction with people who have disabilities. *(We have a great handout for this!)* Invite guest speakers, such as disability advocates or individuals with disabilities, who can share their experiences. *(SPEAK can help with this too!)*

2. **Sensory Simulations:** Set up stations to simulate sensory disabilities (e.g., blindness or deafness). Students can try activities blindfolded or with earplugs to understand the challenges faced by individuals with sensory disabilities.

3. **Assistive Technology Showcase:** Display assistive technologies like screen readers, communication devices, and adaptive equipment. Encourage students to interact with these tools to understand their functionality and how students with disabilities use these tools in their everyday lives.

4. **Inclusive Sports Activities:** Offer inclusive sports activities such as wheelchair basketball or seated volleyball to allow students with and without disabilities to participate together.

5. **Disability Awareness Art Projects:** Engage students in creating artwork, posters, or murals that celebrate disability awareness and promote inclusivity. Display these artworks around the school.

6. **Introduce Disability-Inclusive Literature:** Include books or stories featuring characters with disabilities in the curriculum during Disability Awareness Week.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Children, ages 3 +, collaboratively supported by Auglaize DD and their local school districts.



### What is SPEAK?

SPEAK was created by Auglaize DD for the purpose of Supporting and Promoting Empowerment & Achievement through Kindness. The SPEAK committee is in the process of expanding Auglaize DD's SPEAKers Bureau to increase our offering of disability awareness presentations for all age groups and organizations at local schools, businesses, civic groups, and more!  
Stay tuned for more information on SPEAK!

## Our Team



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## Upcoming Events

**September 13<sup>th</sup>:** Play with a Purpose at All-Abilities Playground Harmon Park, Wapak, 10:30-11:30am

**October 12<sup>th</sup>:** Halloween Dance at St. Marys Eagles, 6:00-9:00pm

**Wapakoneta Halloween Parade:** October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

**Boo! On the Moon:** October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Armstrong Air & Space Museum, 5:00-7:30pm



**Auglaize DD**

County Board of Developmental Disabilities  
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