

April 2025



AUGLAIZE DD CHILDHOOD & TRANSITION UPDATES

Autism Acceptance Month

April is Autism Acceptance Month, and with the increasing prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), it is crucial for educators to understand key characteristics of ASD to create an inclusive learning environment.

1. **Social Challenges:** Students with ASD may struggle with social cues, eye contact and personal space. This doesn't mean they aren't listening. Model turn-taking and social skills to help them engage.
2. **Communication:** Verbal and nonverbal communication can be difficult. Use communication boards, visual charts and clear instructions to support students in expressing themselves.
3. **Repetition:** Students with ASD often thrive in structured environments with routines. Visual schedules can provide predictability which reduces anxiety.
4. **Sensory Stimulation:** Overstimulating environments with loud noises or bright lights can be distracting. Consider a sensory room or quiet space for students to decompress or seek sensory input when needed.

Reminder: As summer draws near, Auglaize DD wants to ensure eligibility is in place for children who will turn three years old during June, July and August. Educators can assist in meeting these timelines by completing the ETR/IEP by the child's 3rd birthday.

BY THE NUMBERS

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



Promoting Inclusion Awareness in Schools

Auglaize DD recently collaborated with Auglaize County schools to raise inclusion awareness among elementary and middle school students. We presented "Disability Inclusion: Being an Ally" to sixth grade students in February, offering a glimpse into what life may be like for someone with a disability. In March, we celebrated Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month with our annual book reading in second grade classrooms. Our featured book, *Included*, facilitated discussion on how the things that make us unique help us grow together.

Our Team



Whitney Langston
Childhood & Transition
Services Manager
wlangston@auglaizedd.org



Angie Ahlers
Childhood & Transition
SSA
aahlers@auglaizedd.org



Christi Lightle
Childhood & Transition
SSA
clightle@auglaizedd.org

Upcoming Events

April 14th: Autism Resource Fair
at Tri Star Career Compact from
3:00 - 7:00PM



Auglaize DD

County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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email: khoward@auglaizedd.org