



Autism Awareness Month



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For week 2 we are highlighting the lives of autistic people of various backgrounds, interests, and accomplishments. You can also click this [link](#) to learn about more people!

Monday, April 12, 2021

Armani Williams is a 20-year-old professional NASCAR driver. He is NASCAR's first openly autistic professional driver. Armani is now a part of the NASCAR stable of talented upcoming drivers. He is using his racing career as a platform to draw awareness to Autism.

From: <https://www.teamarmaniracing.com/>

How do you think Armani Williams felt when he realized that he was the first person in his NASCAR community to have autism or be open to sharing his autism with others?

How does his neurodiversity profile help him to achieve in NASCAR?

Check out Armani's Twitter [here!](#)



Tuesday, April 13, 2021



Bev often travels with an animatronic parrot assistant, Mr. Squawkers McCaw.

Bev Harp is a researcher, community advocate and blogger. She's best known for her article "I Am Joe's Functioning Label," a criticism of how words like "high-functioning" and "low-functioning" are inaccurate ways to describe autistic people's support needs.

Bev Harp looks at the ways we have used words to describe autistic people's support needs. Think about how we could choose our words more carefully. What is one way you wished people used their words more carefully?

How does her neurodiversity profile help her to achieve great things?

Bev's twitter is [here!](#)



Bev created this wall (left) to make sure people listen to autistic voices. You can see a larger version [here](#).

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Morénike Giwa Onaiwu (she/they) is an Autistic woman of color, educator, writer, public speaker, parent, and global advocate. Morénike has written for and/or been featured in numerous blogs, abstracts, magazines, books, and other platforms. In addition to writing, she is one of the editors of a groundbreaking anthology on autism and race as well as a co-coordinator of the Fund for Community Reparations for Autistic People of Color's Interdependence, Survival, and Empowerment.



from: <https://awnnetwork.org/directory/morenike-giwa-onaiwu/>

Writing can be a powerful way to make difference in our world. What ways does Morénike use writing to do their important work? What ways could you use writing to help our world?

How does her neurodiversity profile help him to achieve great things?

Morénike's twitter [here!](#)

Morénike says: "Writing is my native language...when my fingers are on a keyboard, or screen, or writing utensil, the real me emerges so readily. I'm free."



Thursday, April 15, 2021

Satoshi Tajiri is a video game designer who created the very popular video game, Pokémon. As a child and young man, Tajiri had a strong interest in both collecting bugs as well as video games. This ultimately gave him the idea for Pokémon--a video game in which players could collect and share different monsters!



What are your interests? What do they inspire you to do?

How does his neurodiversity profile help him to achieve great things?

Check out Satoshi's Twitter [here!](#)



Friday, April 16, 2021

Greta Thunberg — Named person of the year by Time magazine — has shown the world that nothing can interfere with the fulfillment of her mission of climate activism. Not cyberbullying. Not expressions of opposition, some from prominent power players. And perhaps most remarkably, not an autism spectrum diagnosis. In fact, her autism profile is arguably an asset as she sets forth in winning over hearts and minds across the globe.



How does her neurodiversity profile help her to achieve great things?

How do you think your neurodiversity profile could help you achieve great things?

Check out Greta's Social Media Accounts:

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)





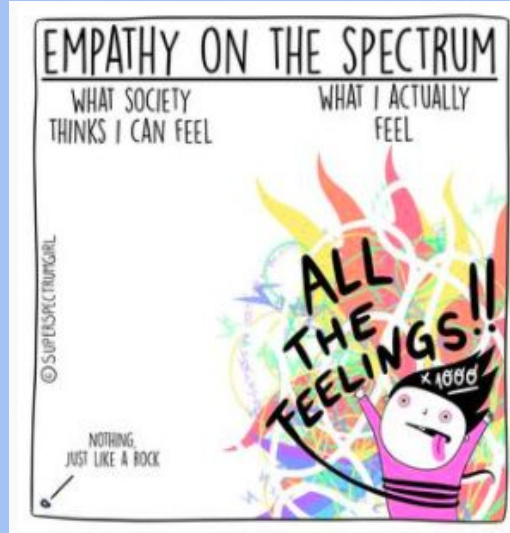
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Week 3

Monday, April 19, 2021



Cartoon by freelance autistic
illustrator Ina Stankovic.

Instagram:
[@superspectrumgirl](https://www.instagram.com/superspectrumgirl)

What does the illustration make you think of?

What does this teach us about people with autism and other neuro diversities?

Do the feelings in the graphic only apply to people with autism? Why or Why not?

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

“I might hit developmental and societal milestones in a different order than my peers, but I am able to accomplish these small victories on my own time.”

Hayley Moss

What do you think Hayley Moss is saying? Why?

Can you think of a time where you thought something was very difficult but you were able to accomplish your goals?

Wednesday, April 21, 2021



Cartoon by freelance autistic
illustrator Ina Stankovic.

Instagram:
[@superspectrumgirl](https://www.instagram.com/superspectrumgirl)

What does the illustration make you think of?

What does this teach us about people with autism?

Do the feelings in the graphic only apply to people with autism? Why or Why not?

Thursday, April 22, 2021

"Recognizing and respecting differences in others, and treating everyone like you want them to treat you, will help make our world a better place for everyone."

Kim Peeks

What do you think Kim Peek is saying?

Based on what we have learned about neurodiversity, what can we do as individuals to be a better friend and to make the world a better place?

Friday, April 23, 2021



Cartoon by freelance autistic
illustrator Ina Stankovic.

Instagram:
[@superspectrumgirl](https://www.instagram.com/superspectrumgirl)

What does the illustration make you think of?

What does this teach us about people with autism?

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Week 4

Monday, April 26, 2021

PK-5: Think about a time when you felt like you belonged.

OPTIONAL Add on 3-5: Also, think about a time when you did not belong. Compare these experiences

Wednesday, April 28, 2021



Cartoon by freelance autistic
illustrator Ina Stankovic.

Instagram:
[@superspectrumgirl](https://www.instagram.com/superspectrumgirl)

What does the illustration make you think of?

What does this teach us about people with autism?

Do the feelings in the graphic only apply to people with autism? Why or Why not?