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# Autism

## Myths and Facts

1.

### Myth

People with autism don't want friends



### Fact

Kids with Autism do want friends, but they struggle with their social skills and ability to communicate. This makes it much more difficult for them to form relationships and express their desire for friendship

2.

### Myth

Individuals with Autism lack feeling and empathy



### Fact

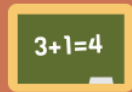
Autism does not make people incapable of feeling the same emotions as someone without Autism. However, they do interpret and express feelings differently



3.

### Myth

All Autistic people are intellectually challenged



### Fact

Autism brings both outstanding strengths and weaknesses. Many people with Autism Spectrum Disorder exhibit very high to normal IQs, while some will succeed in a particular area such as music or math.

4.

### Myth

Autism is a mental health disorder.



### Fact

Autism is a neurological disorder linked to abnormalities in brain structure and neurotransmitter levels.

5.

### Myth

Autism is caused by bad parenting.



### Fact

In the 1950s, it was a widely held belief that Autism was caused by emotionally distant parents. While no singular cause has been determined, Autism is no longer associated with bad parenting.

6.

### Myth

Autism can be cured.



### Fact

There is no cure for Autism. Autism is a biological condition that cannot be reversed, but certain treatments have been shown to be helpful in managing the effects of Autism.