



### **April Is Autism Awareness Month- 10 Ways to Celebrate**

1. Light It Up Blue for Greater Understanding and Acceptance  
April 2<sup>nd</sup>, World Autism Awareness Day!!!!
  - Go to [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org) and commit your entire school to wear blue!
  - Wear a blue t-shirt and make sure your friends, coworkers, and classmates do too!
  - Pick up a blue light bulb and swap it out at your home or work.
  - Turn your Facebook or Twitter profile picture blue
  - Have your teachers use the Puzzle Piece Project and Autism Awareness Month Tool Kit
2. Hold an Autism Awareness Book Study at your school site. A great choice, Uniquely Human: A Different Way Of Seeing Autism by Barry Prizant
3. Visit Paula Kluth's website to learn about inclusive practices for students with autism. <http://www.paulakluth.com/>
4. Devote a display area in your school to share facts about Autism.
5. Visit the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) website to explore materials and resources surrounding safety, advocacy, behavior, community, and life skills.
6. Set up a sensory exhibit at your school to experience tunnels, swings, weighted vests, and body sock. Create homemade sensory items and donate to a classroom for students with autism.
7. Visit the website for Autism Speaks  
<http://media.autismspeaks.org/liub/LIUB+Educational+Toolkit.pdf>  
Explore fully completed grade specific lesson plans (K-12<sup>th</sup> grade) to educate the students at your school about Autism and related disabilities.
8. Share facts about Autism on morning news announcements during the month of April. See the CDC website for data and facts at  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/data.html>
9. Celebrate Autism Awareness Month on your school marquee
10. Share the "Growing Up Together" booklets for Elementary through teens at:  
<http://www.angelfire.com/pa5/as/autismawareness.html>

Save the Date: 2018 Autism Summer Institute July 17th & July 18th

Registration opens on PLN April 2nd