101 Games And Activities For Children With Autism, Asperger's And Sensory Processing Disorders
LEARNING THROUGH PLAY One of the best ways for children with autism, Asperger’s, and sensory processing disorders to learn is through play. Children improve their motor skills, language skills, and social skills by moving their bodies and interacting with their environment. Yet the biggest challenges parents, teachers, and loved ones face with children on the autism spectrum or with sensory processing disorders is how to successfully engage them in play. Pediatric occupational therapist Tara Delaney provides the answer. In 101 Games and Activities for Children with Autism, Asperger’s, and Sensory Processing Disorders, she shows you how to teach your children by moving their bodies through play. These interactive games are quick to learn but will provide hours of fun and learning for your child. And many of the games can be played indoors or outdoors, so your child can enjoy them at home, outside, or on field trips. More than one hundred games that help your child: make eye-contact, stay focused, and strengthen his or her motor skills associate words with objects and improve language and numerical skills learn how to interact with others, how to take turns, and other social skills needed for attending preschool and school

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My nephew was diagnosed on the autism spectrum a few years ago, and I've been trying to find ways to play with him ever since. This book contains plenty of clearly explained games and activities that are fun for me and my nephew. I like that the book is organized by developmental area, too. For example, my nephew’s occupational therapist and teacher told our family that he needs to work on fine motor skills, so I just turned to that chapter of the book for inspiration! I hope
"101 Games and Activities for Children with Autism, Asperger’s, and Sensory Processing Disorders" is a compendium of practical games, exercises, and activities specially chosen or designed to enhance sensory integration and development in children with sensory processing disorders. The games are interactive, easy stimulating, and fun. Best of all, they will help the child to grow, learn social skills, and communicate. The model used by author Tara Delaney (M.S., OTR) is partially described as "Using three-dimensional learning as a way of imprinting preacademic and academic concepts in your child’s repertoire of information will increase your child’s opportunity for success in the classroom (p.138)." The book is divided into 10 chapters covering such areas as engagement, sensory development, gross and fine motor skills, communication, social sense, school readiness, home activities, outdoor activities, and adapting brand-name games. All the play-game activities are presented in a compact format that highlights aspects including whether the game is indoor/outdoor, equipment, how (first and second levels), purpose, and why. An excellent explanation of the Brain Library in the introduction explains the different areas of the brain catalogued for different types of learning, and how best to access them. Fundamental to Delaney’s teaching philosophy is the discovery that "play has (an infinite) power to teach, develop, and connect children to the world (p. viii)." "101 Games and Activities for Children with Autism, Asperger’s, and Sensory Processing Disorders" is an excellent resource for parents, teachers, and caretakers of children with sensory processing disorders.

This book has great activities for any typical child, but not for kids who are non-verbal or very low in their communication skills.

This is a nice book but there were not a lot of games under each section. I would recommend it more for home use.

We have a 4 year old non-verbal boy on the spectrum and my husband especially has trouble knowing what to do with him and how to interact with him when they spend time together, since our son doesn’t really pretend play and is extremely active. Since he can’t communicate very well it can be very hard to play with and engage him. This book is just what I was looking for to help my husband, myself and our nanny come up constructive activities to do with him that are not only fun, but educational and interactive as well. When he’s not in school the days can be very long. He has
no interest in watching TV or movies whatsoever, which some might say is a good thing, but it can also make for some very long days sometimes and when he gets bored, no one is happy. This is a very well written book by someone who clearly knows what they’re talking about. I love how it’s divided up into helpful sections based on age and on what is appropriate for what types of children. What my husband likes about it is he doesn’t have to sit and read the whole book, he can flip through it and find an activity (usually while he’s in the loo) and try it with our son later. Super easy! I’m so grateful for people who use their experience and take the time to write books like this for parents like us who only have one child and that child has autism and sensory issues. Thank you!

This book has been a big help to me since I am homeschooling my son who has moderate autism. Sometimes it is hard to come up with ideas for him since he doesn’t really "play" with anything and is non-verbal. This book is educational for a parent/caregiver/teacher, as well as giving ideas for occupational games and activities.

Great job by Tara Delaney for putting together such a great play-based book. Many parents, and professionals, are often at a loss for ideas when looking for purposeful ways to interact with children with ASD and other related disorders. I like the way the author broke down activities by sensory development, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, communication, social sense, school ready, home activities, and outdoor activities. A great addition was how she dedicated chapter on adapting brand-name games... so that a child could play traditional games in a modified way. My review would have been higher, but I feel the book lacks ideas for those on the spectrum with more severe, cognitive challenges. These parents, including myself, are looking for similar activities, but are often disappointed when the child is not an assumed level of understanding or functioning. So, as a result there is a great loss of interactive play in the home/social environments for these families. If Ms. Delaney took on this challenge in authoring another book of this caliber for that population, it would get 5 stars from me!

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