## **Children of the Stars — Autism**

### Why You Need to Know About Autism?

Autism is much more common than most people think. Recent data indicates that 1 out of every 68 children has autism. However, people's knowledge of autism is still vague and full of prejudices. Thus, it is important to know what autism is and how you can help those who have it.



#### What Is Autism?

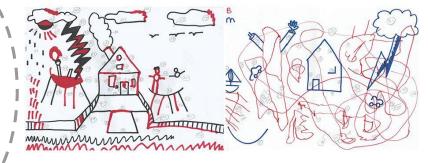
- Autism is a developmental disability. It begins during early development either prenatal or by the age of 3
- Autism is not a mental or emotional illness.
- There is no cure for autism yet, and it does not go away
- With good education, intervention, and support, children may improve as they get older

## What are the common signs of autism?

### If your child has some of these signs, please tell your doctor:

- $\star$ Seldom have eye contact
- ★Does not smile much

- ★ Does not express themselves with body language
- $\star$ Does not respond to their name
- $\star$ Poor organising and problem-solving skills
- $\star$ Does the same thing over and over
- $\bigstar \mathsf{Has}$  an odd response to sounds or touch



Drawing made by a typically developing 6-year-old kid

Drawing made by a 6-year-old kid who has autism

# How can autism be treated?

- <u>Educational and Behavioral Programs</u> Teachers and therapists in these programs can help children learn new behaviors and gain social and language skills. Because children learn quickly when they are very young, this type of therapy should begin as early as possible.
- <u>Medication</u>

Medications do not cure autism, but certain kinds of medications can reduce difficult behaviors in some children.

#### Consult with your pediatrician for more information on management of autism or for referrals.



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Resources: NIH

# 來自星星的孩子 — 自閉症



自閉症比大多數人想像的要普遍得多。最近數據表明,每68 名兒童中就有1名患有自閉症。但是,人們對自閉症的認識仍 然很模糊,而且充滿了偏見。因此,瞭解什麼是自閉症以及 如何幫助患有自閉症的人是很有必要的。





### 如果你想更了解如何管理自閉症或需要轉介,請咨詢你的醫生。



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