

SUPPORTING
NEURO DIVERGENT
SELF-DETERMINATION

World Autistic
Acceptance Week





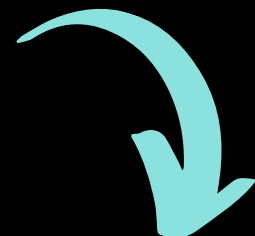
Self-determination is when people have access to control their own lives without oppressive or dominating outside forces.

@NeuroClastic

For most people, access to self-determination is built into society because most people develop on a similar timeline and in similar ways.



But NeuroDivergent kids are pushed into meeting developmental timelines and defining themselves according to how the majority develops. Here's how to build access to self-determination for neurodivergent kids!



Access to

SELF EXPRESSION

NeuroDivergent Kids are different, and people tend to try to protect them by normalizing them. Instead, normalize creativity and divergent ways of self-expression. Let Kids be themselves.

Access to

SELF KNOWLEDGE

NeuroDivergent kids are often only given info about themselves that implies they are like everyone else but with deficits. They need to be given language that explains the way they are quite different with different strengths and support needs.

Access to

CONTRIBUTE

In order for NeuroDivergent kids to participate in meaningful ways, teachers should not simply reduce the difficulty of tasks others are doing. Teachers should design tasks that allow for NeuroDivergent children to use their strengths to the height of their potential.

Room to

TROUBLESHOOT

Being wired differently means that NeuroDivergent Kids need to problem-solve differently; however, they are often merely accommodated to do the things the same way as other kids. This stifles their creativity and self-determination.

Room to

BE TENACIOUS

Neurodivergent tenacity is often mistaken for stubbornness or rigidity but NeuroDivergent children need to explore their passion on their own terms. Instead of working against it, give them room to specialise in their areas of interest.

Room to

PROTEST

Therapies for NeuroDivergent children are often based on pushing them to be more compliant. This prevents them from having access to self-advocacy. They need room to protest and to be heard about the divergent access needs and passion for fairness.

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