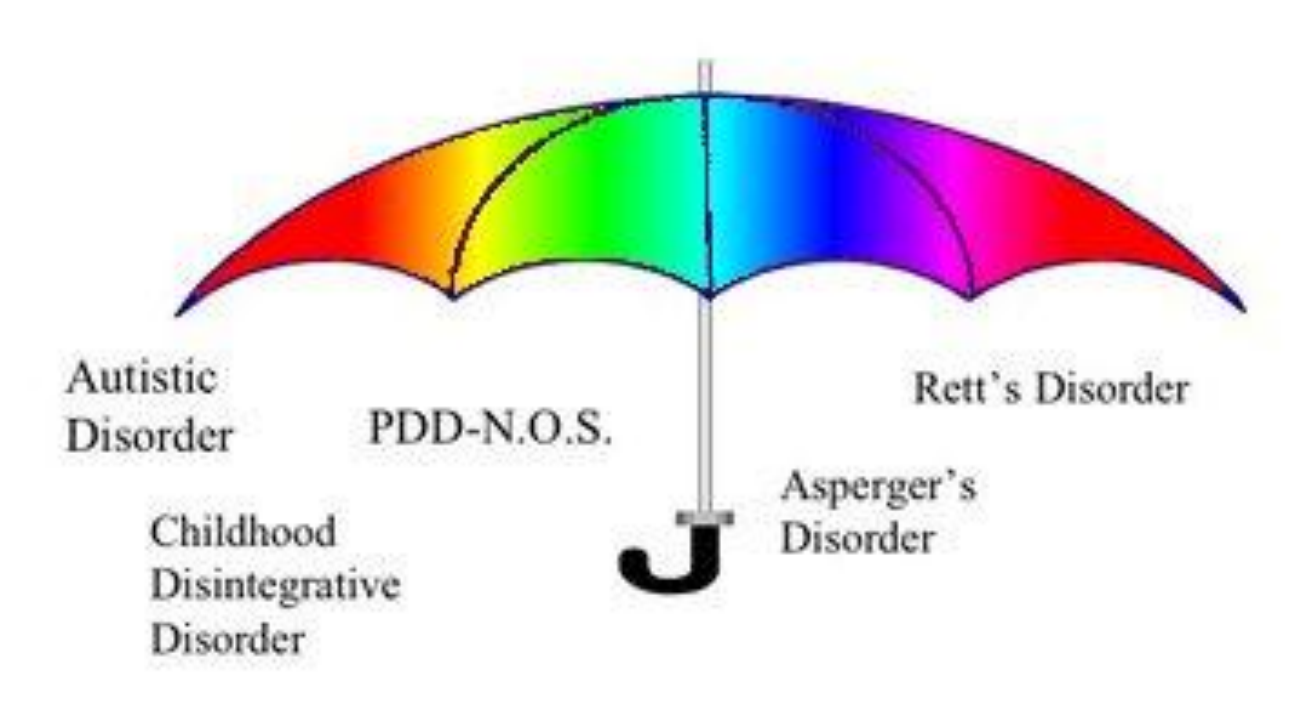
Theory of Mind Psychopathology

Dr Penny Tok

* Autism: issues and main characteristics
* Autism: link between profile and ToM

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS



DSM IV- TR

Pervasive Developmental Disorder: disorders usually first diagnosed in infancy, childhood or adolescence.

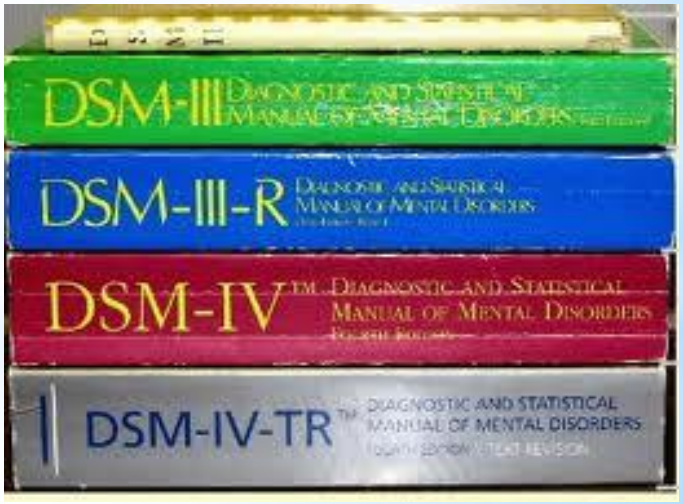
Includes:

- Autistic Disorder
- Aspergers Disorder
- Pervasive Developmental Disorder- Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS).
- Childhood Disintegrative Disorder (CDD)

*Autism

Changes to autism diagnostic criteria

DSM 5 – out in 2013



AUTISM
TRIAD OF IMPAIRMENTS

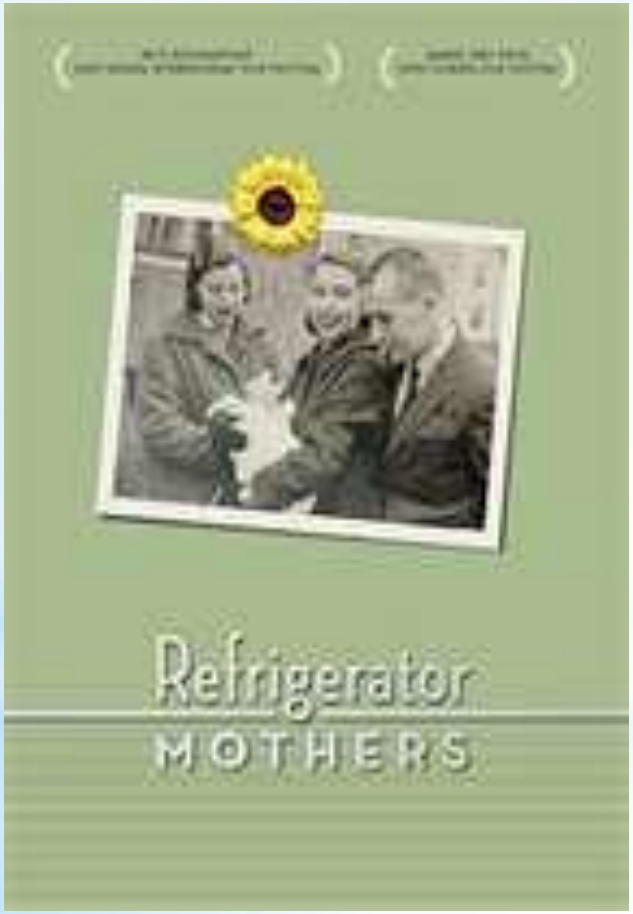
Social Interaction

Autism Triad of Impairments

Communication

Rigidity of Behaviour

What causes autism?



HOLLYROD

Strong genetic basis:

… although how and what structural and biochemical events occur, when and in what order it occurs in is unknown

Environmental risk factor:

any event occurring ***after*** FERTILISATION

Autism specific screening tool:

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS)

Autism and social interaction

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUwa6ZkHtnY

When people are talking...

3

I will not interrupt them.

4

Fig. 1 Example of a prompting page on the Cyrano Communicator TM PDA

Autism and rigidity

Rigidity in BEHAVIOUR and THOUGHTS

Can be sensorial

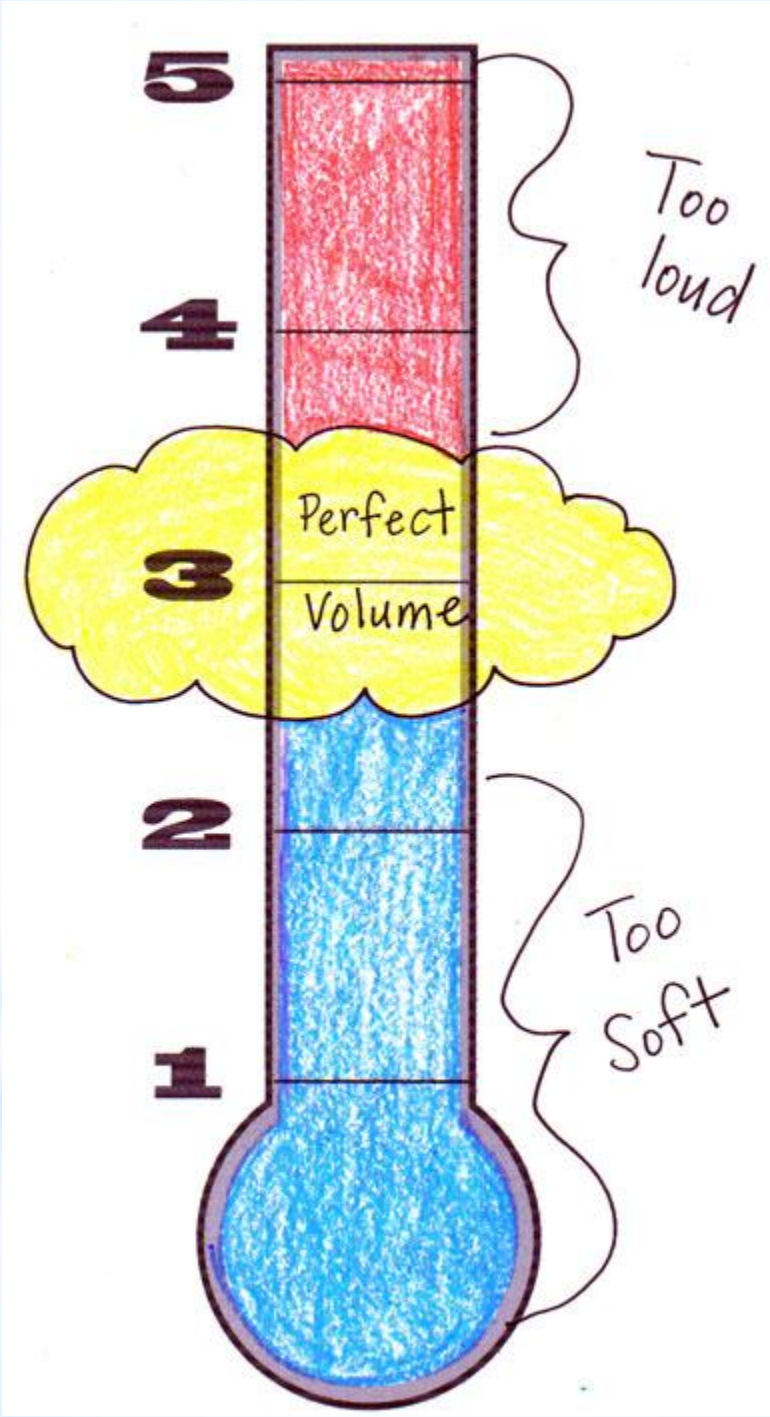
What about executive functioning?

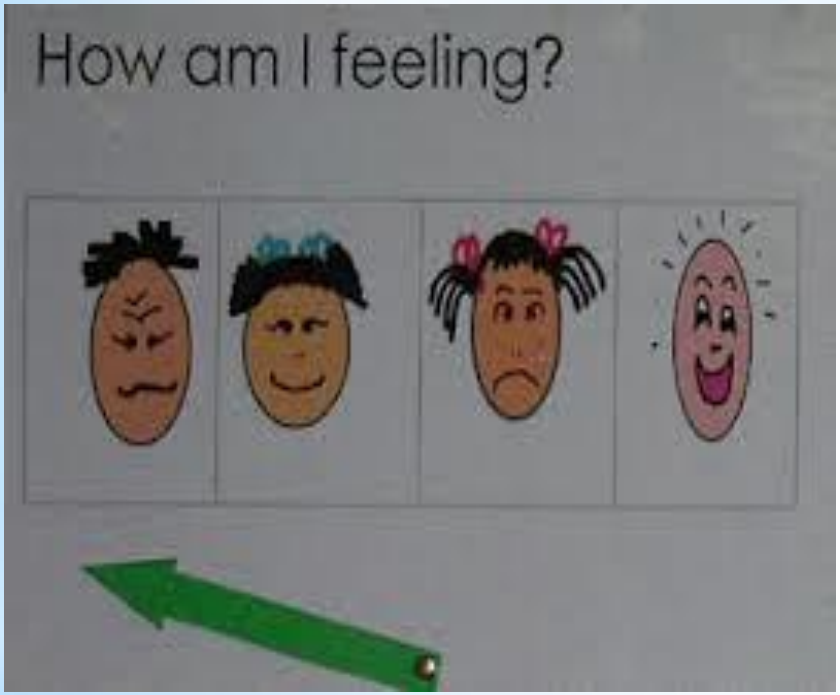
SHELDON AND HIS SPOT
STILL A BETTER LOVE STORY THAN TWILIGHT

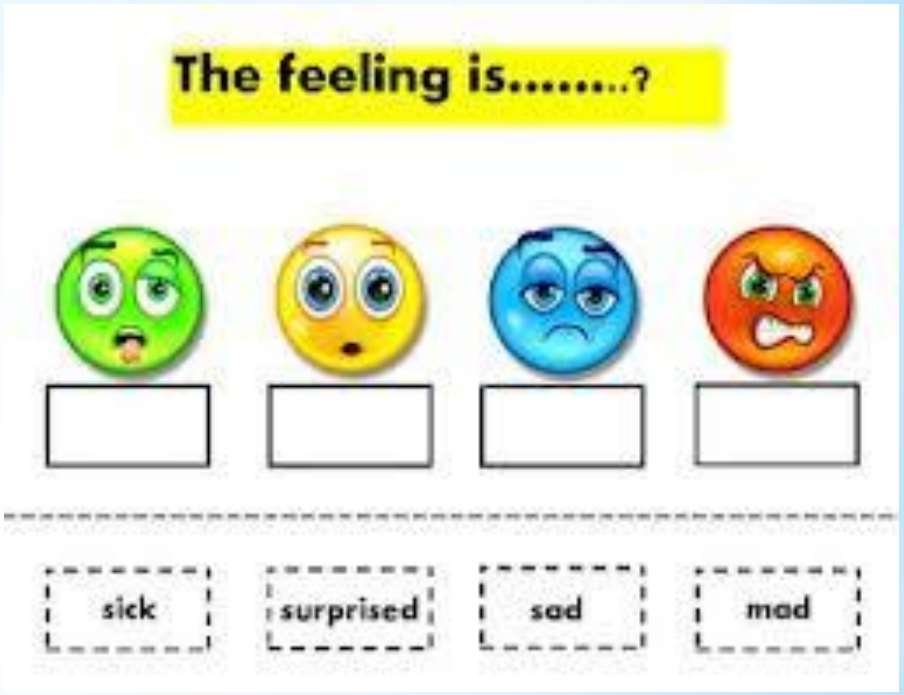
Autism & sensory issues

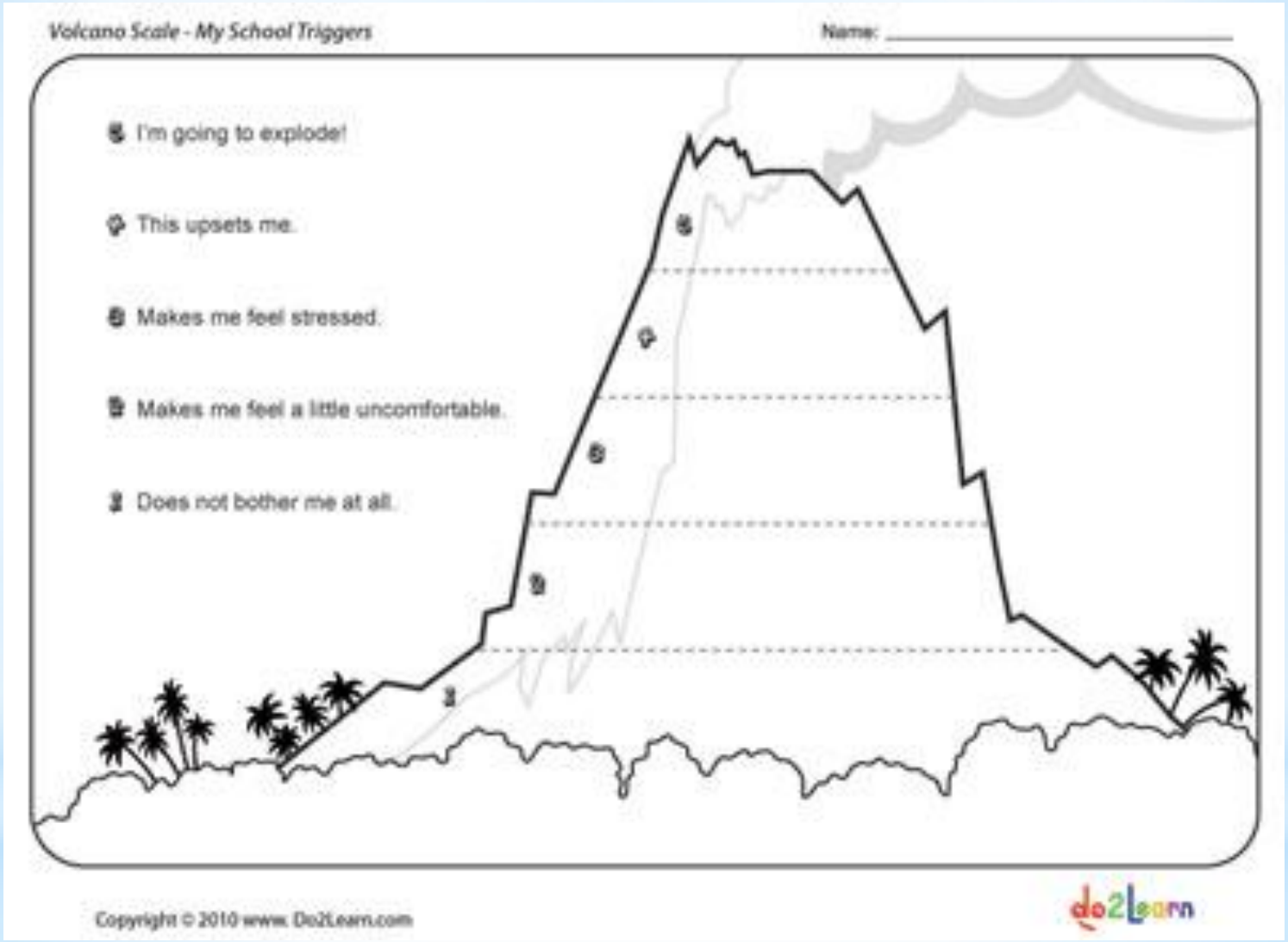
Chewy Tube

Autism and self-awareness


5
4
3
2
1
Too loud
Perfect
Volume
Too Soft


How am I feeling?


The feeling is.....?
sick
surprised
sad
mad


Volcano Scale - My School Triggers
Name:
5 I'm going to explode!
4 This upsets me.
3 Makes me feel stressed.
2 Makes me feel a little uncomfortable.
1 Does not bother me at all.
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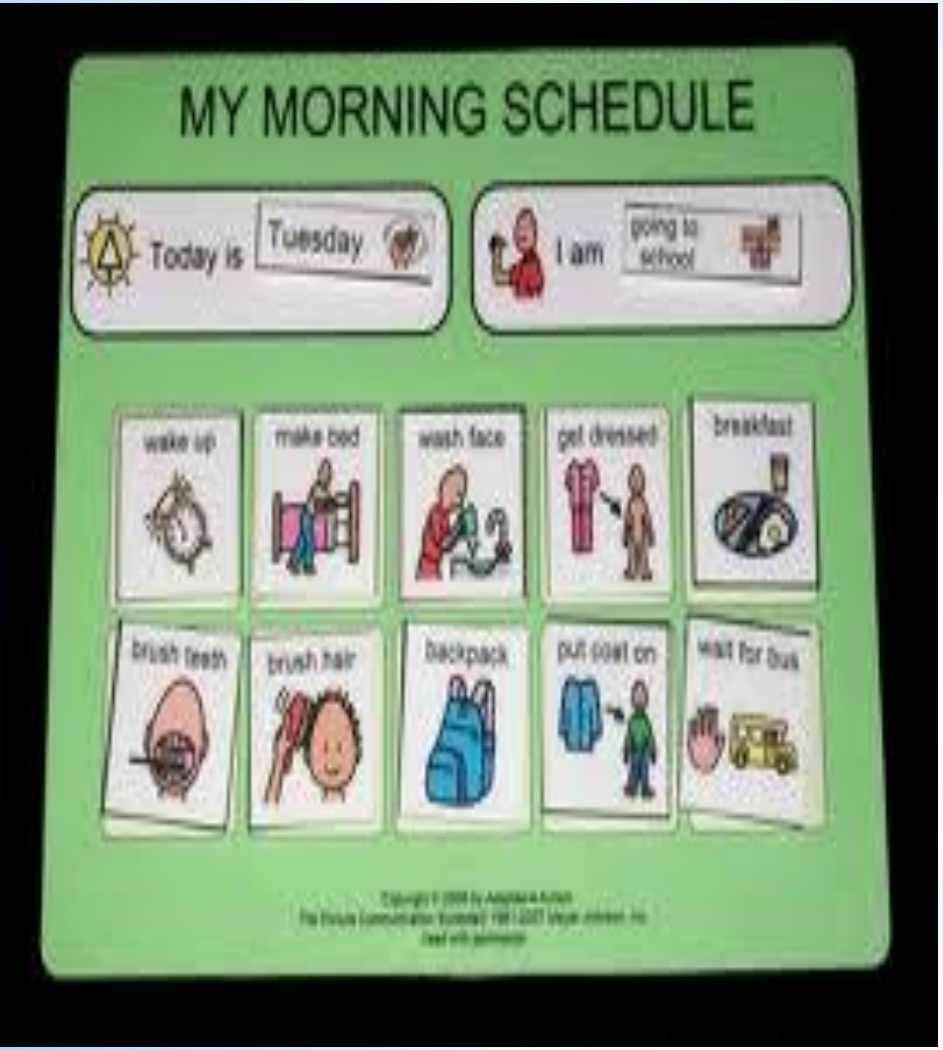
Autism and organisation

OT
circle time
music
lunch

Getting ready for school
Things to do
Finished
Breakfast
Medication
Reader
Get dressed
Clean teeth
Shoes and socks
School bag
Ready set Lets go!


MY MORNING SCHEDULE
Today is
Tuesday
I am
going to school
wake up
make bed
wash face
get dressed
breakfast
brush teeth
brush hair
backpack
put coat on
wait for bus

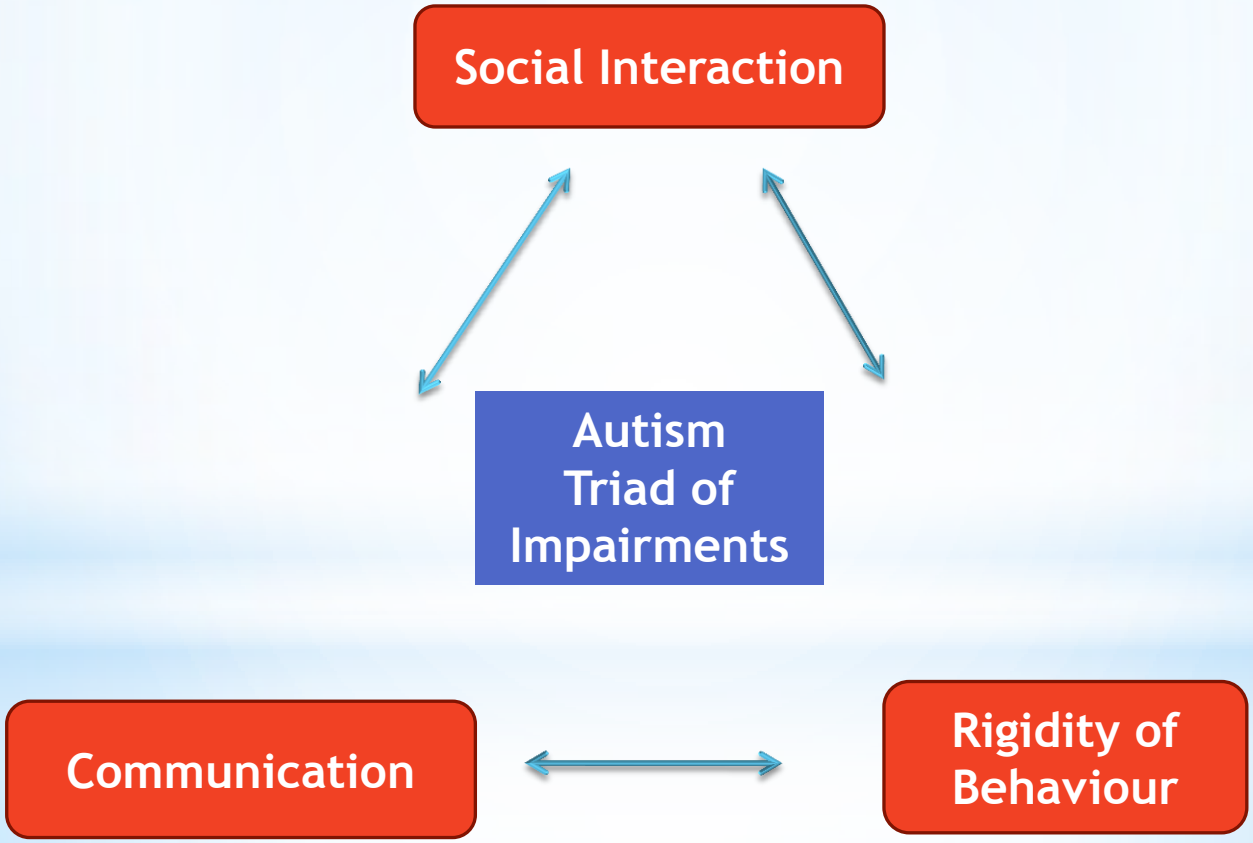
Wednesday
• Play
• Work
• Work
• Snack
• Outside
• Work
• work
• Lunch
• Bathroom, brush teeth
• Wash the table
• Work
• Go Home

schedule
1
card is attached with velcro
1
2
3
Copyright © 2012 Do2Learn

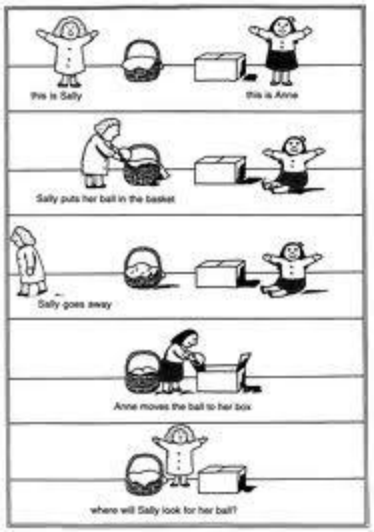
1
2
3
FINISHED
Copyright © 2012 Do2Learn

Kid with aspergers
Like
Share
More info
0:23 1:21

HOW DO THE CLASSIC TRAID OF IMPAIRMENTS IN AUTISM ACCOUNT FOR POOR THEORY OF MIND?



Theory of Mind in autism



Autism and links to Theory of Mind:

* Executive functioning: cognitive flexibility, planning
* Language (inner speech and outer speech)
* Self-awareness (empathy)
* Intellectual functioning
* Sensory and perception issues