

Parent Corner: What is Autism?

By Elizabeth Moreno

What is Autism?

* It is a disability that's affects the input and output of information. It is NOT a learning disorder or intellectual disability.

* A person who is autistic has a different sensory system. Incoming information is perceived differently and they act on that information differently. This is why sometimes we may see differences in communication, social skills, motor control, thinking styles and sensory perception.

* Based on the concept of Neurodiversity:

-Autism is a natural variation in neurocognitive functioning and is not a disorder.

*It is important to understand that an autistic person can have a learning or intellectual disability but it is a separate condition.

-Information was adapted from SLP, Emily Harvey Neurodiversity Advocate, LLC. "Inclusion of Autistic Students".

