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- Rotary Club of Madras | D 3232
- Rotary Club of Brisbane | D 9620
- Rotary Club of Delhi South East | D 3011
- RI Director Thomas A. Gump
- Rotary Club of Edina/Morningside D 5950

COMIC BOOK
FOR KIDS
AGES 7-12

EVERY MIND MATTERS

A STORY
ABOUT
FRIENDSHIP,
DIFFERENCES
& INCLUSION

A CHILDREN'S GUIDE TO
UNDERSTANDING AUTISM

♥ UNDERSTAND. ♥ BE KIND. ♥ INCLUDE.

I like my
planets.
♥

Meet **Arjun.**

He sees the world
a little differently.
And that's what
makes him
special.

Different is not less. Different is beautiful. ♥

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Some sounds, lights or smells
can feel too strong for
autistic people.



Remember:

It's not that Arjun doesn't like people.
His senses just work differently.



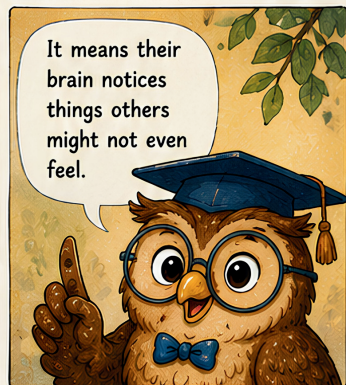
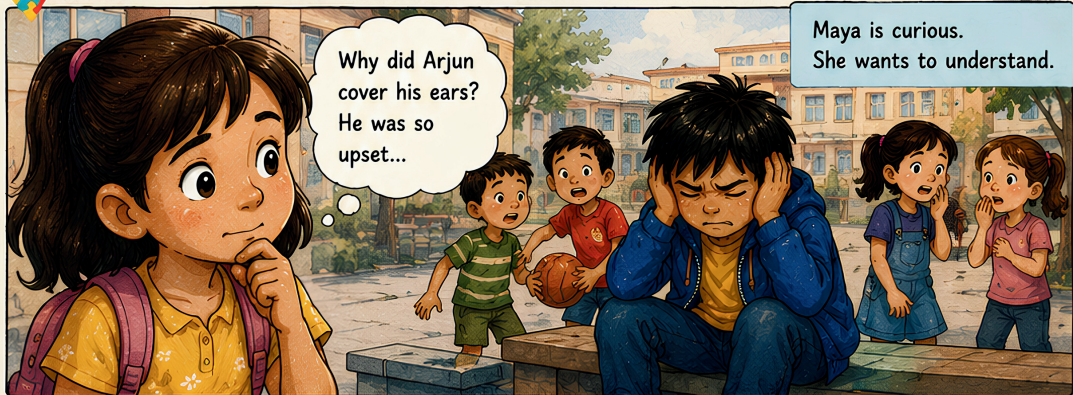
Understanding helps.
Empathy connects.
Inclusion belongs to everyone.



Be kind.
Be patient.
Be inclusive.



WHAT'S GOING ON?



Imagine your volume button has 10 levels. For Arjun, it may always be on 8 or 9!

Sounds...



A fire alarm may feel like a rocket blast!

Lights...



Bright lights may feel too strong.

Smells...



Strong smells may feel overwhelming.



It's not tantrum. It's "too much" for their amazing senses.

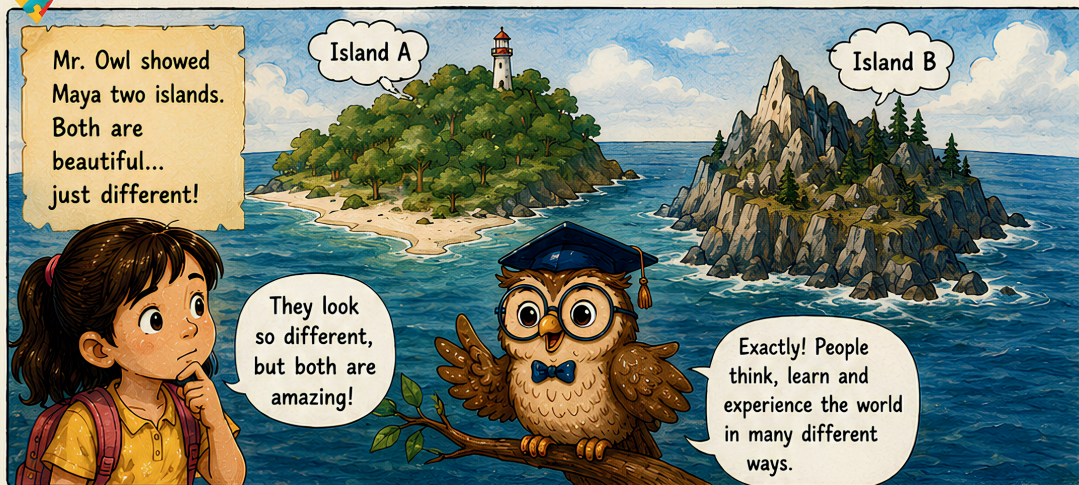


Understanding is the first step to kindness. When we **understand**, we can **support**!

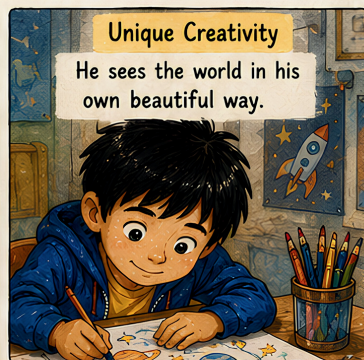
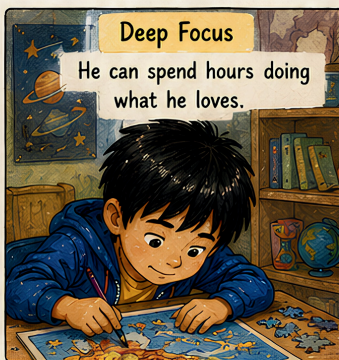


DIFFERENT BRAINS, DIFFERENT STRENGTHS!

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Autistic brains are wired differently, not wrongly.
They may notice details, patterns and things others miss.



Different is not less.
Different is a **GIFT**
to the world!



When we celebrate differences, everyone wins!



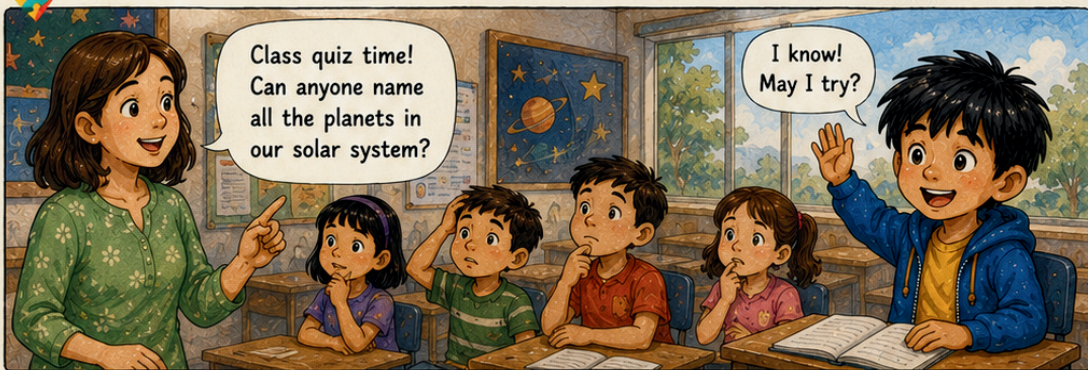
Inclusion starts with understanding.



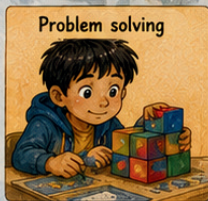
Let's build a world where everyone belongs. ♥

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KNOWLEDGE THAT INSPIRES!



Many autistic people have special strengths.
They can shine in many amazing ways!



Let's remember... ❤️

Everyone has
something they are
good at.
When we **support**
each other,
we all **grow!** ❤️

Celebrate
strengths.
Not
differences!



Every mind is **unique**. Every strength is **valuable**. ❤️



Good friends see the person,
not the differences.



At recess, Arjun would rather play by himself. It's not because he doesn't like friends. It's just that noisy, busy places can feel too much.



WOOHOO!

HA HA!

YAY!

Arjun needs quiet time to feel calm and happy.

That's when true friends step in! ☆



They understand.

They don't force Arjun to change. They include him just the way he is.



How can we be good friends? ♥

★ BE KIND

Use kind words and a gentle heart.



★ BE PATIENT

Give them time and space.



★ LISTEN

Listen when they talk. It shows you care.



★ INCLUDE

Invite them to play, learn and share with you.



★ RESPECT

Everyone is different. Everyone is important.



Remember: A friend is someone who accepts you, supports you and celebrates you!



When we choose **kindness**, we build **friendships**.
When we build friendships, we build a **better world**.



Different is not less. Friends make it **better!** ♥

Small steps, big impact.



The class works on a group project. Everyone has a role. Everyone matters.



Great ideas, Arjun! Can you help us with the drawing?

Yes! I'll draw the building and details!



Inclusion means everyone gets a chance to belong and contribute.



We can make the world more inclusive every day. ❤️

BE AWARE

Learn and understand autism. Ask questions with respect.



BE ACCEPTING

It's okay to be different. Everyone has strengths.



BE SUPPORTIVE

Offer help, not pity. Encourage and include others.



BE A FRIEND

Invite them, play together and stand up for kindness.



Thanks for including me, everyone! It makes me feel really happy.

When we all work together, amazing things happen!



Inclusion is not just something we talk about. It's something we **do**.



Be the reason someone feels welcome today. Small actions create big change!



When we include, we empower.

When we empower, we build a kinder world for all.





★ Inclusion is a habit we practice every day. ★

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1 BE KIND

Use kind words and caring actions.



2 BE PATIENT

Give time and space. Everyone learns in their own way.



3 INCLUDE EVERYONE

Invite others to play, learn and participate.



4 LISTEN

Listen when someone talks. It shows respect and helps us understand.



5 CELEBRATE STRENGTHS

Everyone has something special to share!



6 SPEAK UP

If you see unkindness, tell a teacher or a trusted adult. Be a helper!



When we include everyone,
we build **friendship**.
When we build **friendship**,
we build a **better world**.



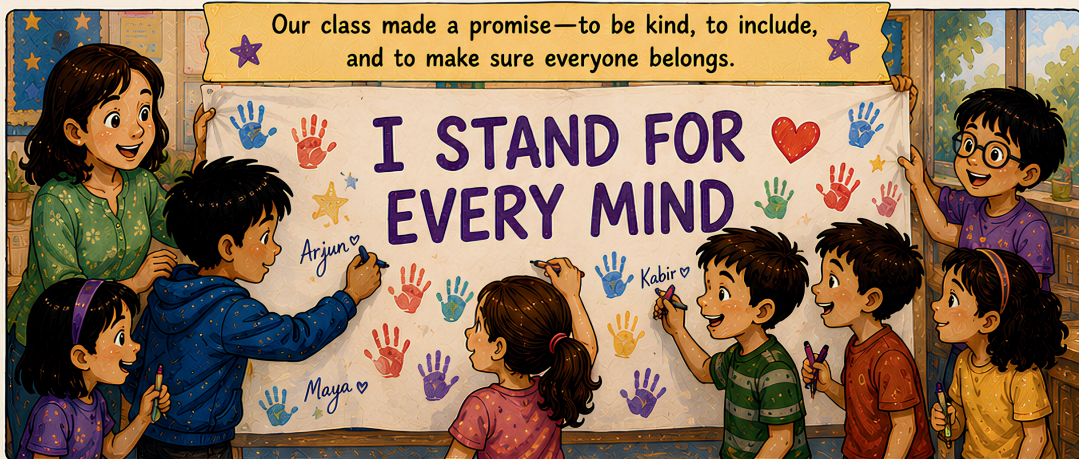
Small actions.
Big hearts.
Better world
for all!



Let's keep making our school—and our world—more **inclusive**, every day! 

I STAND FOR EVERY MIND!

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I learned that different doesn't mean less. ♥



Everyone deserves to belong. ♥



Understanding makes our school stronger. ♥



Thank you for understanding me. ♥



Inclusion isn't about changing people. It's about making sure everyone has a place. ♥



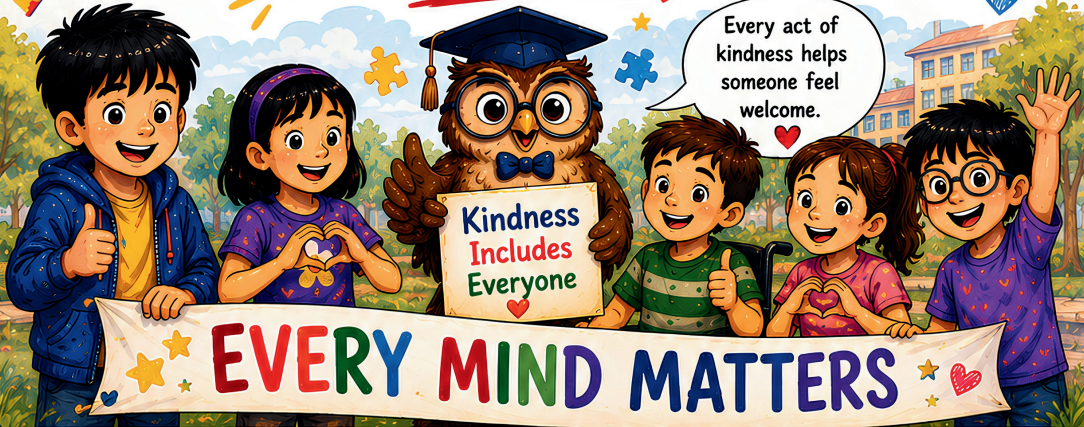
EVERY MIND MATTERS

Together, we can build a kinder, more inclusive world for all.



YOU ARE AN INCLUSION HERO!

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INCLUSION HERO PLEDGE

- ✓ I will be kind.
- ✓ I will be patient.
- ✓ I will include others.
- ✓ I will celebrate differences.
- ✓ I will respect different ways of learning.
- ✓ I will remember that **EVERY MIND MATTERS.**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____



LEARN MORE



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Autism Awareness Resources



Inclusion Activities



Mental Health Resources



Global Pledge Movement



Family Support Tools

Together, we can create schools, communities and families where everyone feels accepted, valued and included.



PROJECT MENTOR & INITIATIVE SUPPORT

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For his visionary leadership, encouragement, guidance and unwavering support in advancing autism awareness and inclusion through Rotary service worldwide.

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WITH GRATITUDE

Special appreciation to the global Rotarians For Autism team, partner Rotary clubs, volunteers, educators and families for their commitment to building a more inclusive world.



EDUCATIONAL NOTICE

This publication is intended for autism awareness and inclusion education. It is not medical, psychological, diagnostic or legal advice. For professional support, please consult qualified experts.

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Different is not less.
Inclusion is more.

Be Kind. Be Patient. Be Inclusive. Be the Change.
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