

# I Have Autism

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Illustrated by you!

**I have autism.**

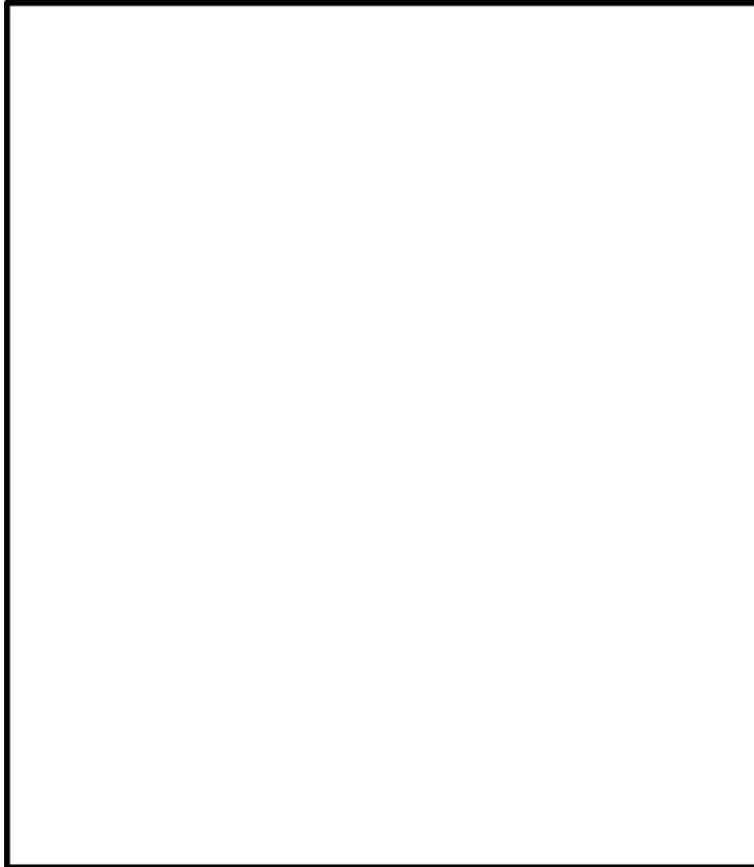
**Since I have autism, some things will be harder for me than they are for other kids my age, but there are a lot of things that I will be better at too.**



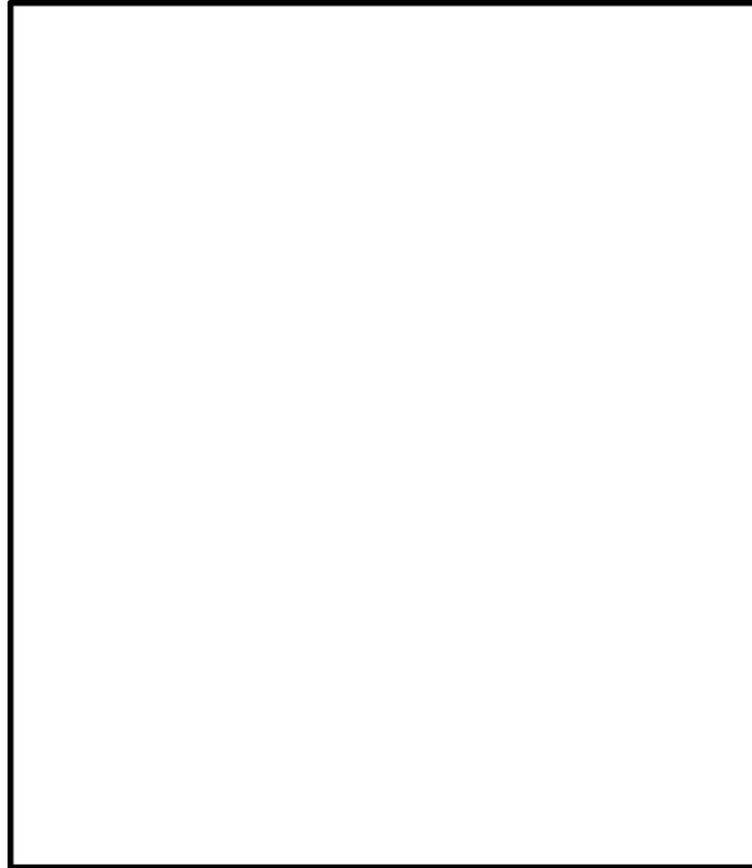
**Autism means that my brain works differently than some other kids. It's not really a big deal though because everybody's brain works differently than each other's.**



**My dad's brain likes to think about motorcycles and fixing the roof.  
My mom's brain likes to think about friends and taking care of us kids.**



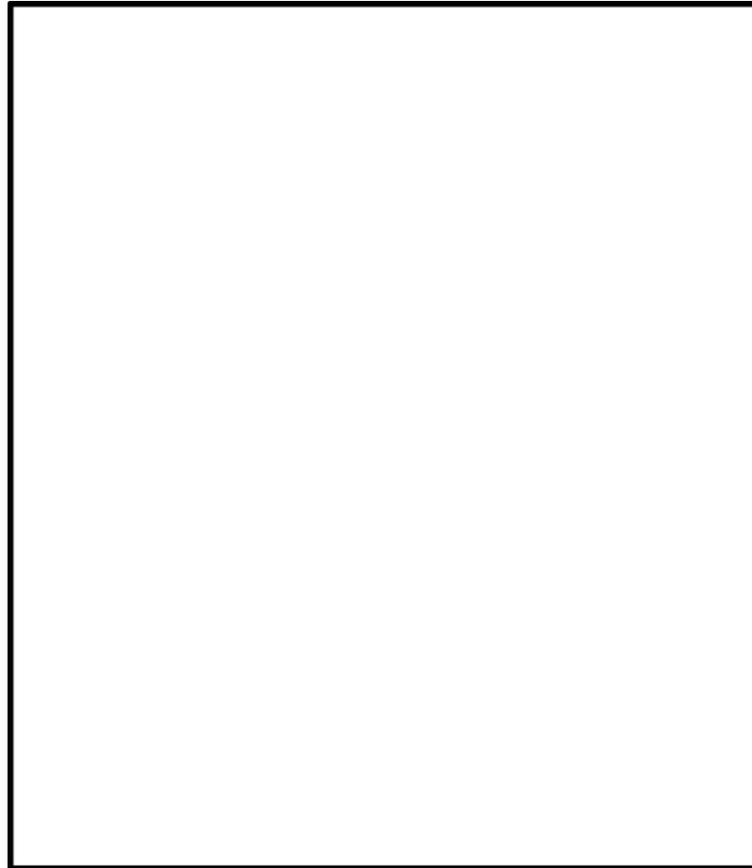
**Having autism isn't always easy. That's why I have therapists that help me so that I don't get too frustrated. My therapists help me learn new things to make life easier for me.**



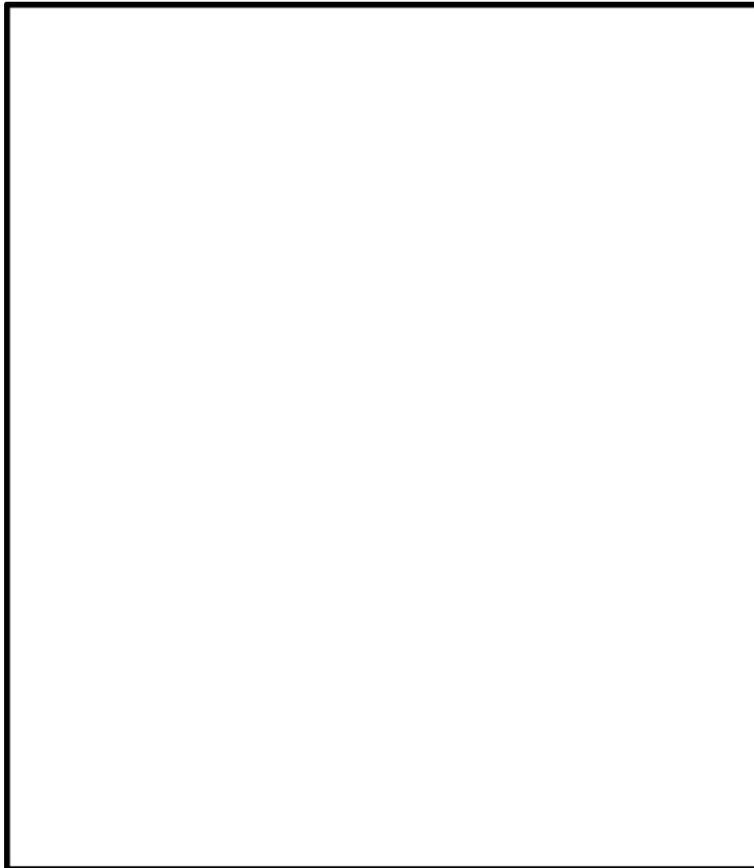
**Having autism means that sometimes  
I have trouble getting people to  
understand what I'm trying to tell them.  
Sometimes I can't find the right  
words to go with my thoughts.**



**Sometimes I don't understand what  
other people are trying to tell me.  
Sometimes I don't understand why  
other kids play the way they do.**



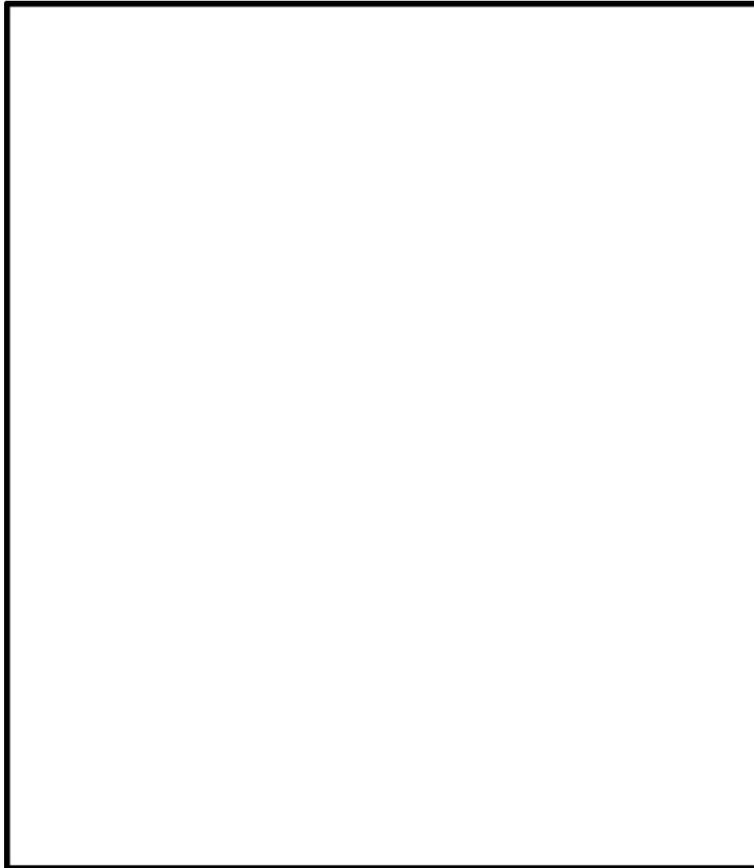
**Sometimes my body feels funny, and I need help to feel okay again. Like sometimes I have a hard time calming myself down, but someone pushing on my shoulders or wearing a heavy backpack helps.**



**Sometimes things bother me that don't bother other people like a soft touch on my arm, bright lights, or a loud noise.**



**Having autism is hard, but it also means that I'm really good at stuff too!  
I can remember things that other people forget. I am really funny.  
I can figure out ways of doing things that nobody else has thought of.**



**I have autism.  
And I'm okay with that.  
Because it makes me who I am,  
and I am loved just the way that I am.**





