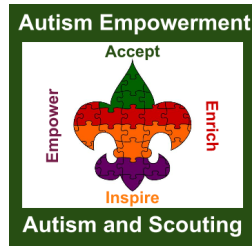


Autism and Scouting



Autism Empowerment **Accept, Enrich, Inspire, Empower**

23 Leader tips for helping Scouts on the Autism Spectrum

1. **When you've met one scout with Autism, you've met ONE scout with Autism.**
2. As each scout has different strengths and challenges, strategies to assist or encourage are not one-size-fits-all.
3. Get to know each scout and his or her family.
4. Find out what, if anything may cause a meltdown/shutdown.
5. Find out what works best to help the scout recover from a meltdown or shutdown.
6. Find out any sensory issues the scout might have.
7. Find out how each scout learns best. "Show me" rather than just "tell me."
8. Find out any special interests or hobbies that a scout has.
9. Incorporate these special interests into activities to help each scout learn.
10. Have a designated place for each scout to go for sensory breaks.
11. Allow for transition time and processing time when changing routine or activities.
12. Use positive encouragement to motivate a scout to take part in activities.
13. Explain the reason why something is being done and a benefit to the scout.
14. Be careful of how you use sarcasm or idioms either directly or indirectly.
15. Don't talk down to a scout and make sure to monitor your tone.
16. Live by positive example. Live the Scout Law and Oath – Integrity matters.
17. Try to help each scout achieve success while having fun along the way.
18. Always follow the guide to safe scouting.
19. Always remember to respect the privacy of each scout and his/her family.
20. **Accept** each scout for who they are, where they are at this point in their life.
21. **Enrich** each scout's life by helping him/her or develop lifelong skills.
22. **Inspire** each scout to be exceptional. Chances are that he/she will inspire you too.
23. **Empower** each scout by teaching the tools to be self-sufficient and successful.



For more information visit: www.AutismandScouting.org

Join us at Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/autismandscouting>

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