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**AVOID USING PSYCHIATRIC or JUDGMENTAL TERMS  
TO DESCRIBE FEATURES OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS**

**AVOID:**  
Perseverative  
Obsessed  
Compulsive  
Fixated  
Stereotypic  
Preoccupied  
Socially isolated  
Aloof  
Inattentive  
Uncaring  
Overreacting  
Stubborn, spoiled  
Non-compliant  
Unwilling  
Tantrumming  
Self-absorbed  
Self-isolating  
Egocentric  
Stimming

**DESCRIBE WITH THESE TERMS:**

Interests:  
Restricted and/or repetitive  
Intensely focused  
*Highly liked* subject/action/object/event/person  
Enjoys  
Fascinated  
Communication and socialization:  
Difficulty learning  
Confused  
Unusual ways  
Unconventional  
Doesn't understand  
Restricted means  
Doesn't respond  
Unable to  
Sensory issues:  
Unusual responses  
Overloaded  
Bothered by  
Confused by  
Interested in or seeks  
Bothered by or avoids  
Fascinated by or needs  
Moves  
Needs