

# REVIEWS

## *The Autism Spectrum Handbook & Resource Guide*

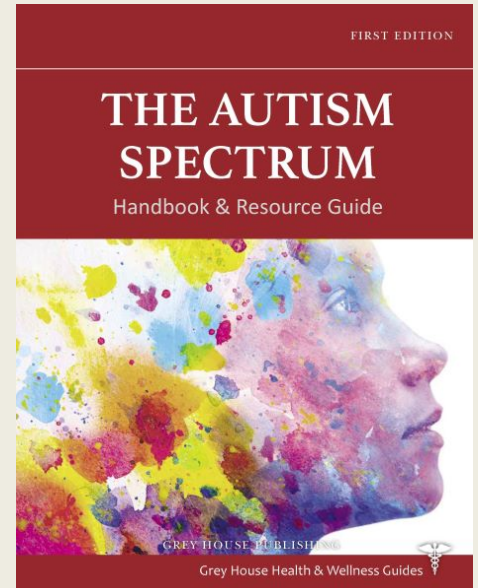
“Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) may be one of the more challenging diagnoses for families today as, according to The Autism Spectrum, no test yet exists to confirm its diagnosis. However, children as early as age two can receive a diagnosis by a trained professional through examination of their development and behaviors (p. xii). It is, therefore, vitally important that families have access to reliable information regarding Autism so that they may make informed decisions, learn more about the condition, and become aware of the variety of community resources available to them following diagnosis... “

“...This section includes a glossary of terms that includes a geographical index by state that individuals will find useful. **The definitions, reports, and studies provided are also in layman’s terms rather than clinically written, making them approachable to the general public.** The reports also include many images to break up the text and highlight various aspects within. Call out boxes are also used as additional ways to highlight information in what could otherwise be dense text to help users find information quickly.

“Finally, beyond the definitions, statistics, and reports, **the inclusion of available resources may be the most vital part of this reference book.** Sometimes, just knowing that one is not alone and where to turn to after receiving a diagnosis for any condition is a necessary comfort. This section includes major agencies and associations but also support groups, hotlines, digital resources, research centers, and libraries. For families managing an ASD diagnosis, the availability of this item on the library’s reference shelf may confirm that there is hope. This work would allow them to follow up on some of the aspects mentioned by the physician for themselves to better understand what faces their family in the future...”

*-Against the Grain*, September 2024

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## *The Autism Spectrum Handbook & Resource Guide*

"This book discusses autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and related medical/mental health conditions, along with resources such as agencies, foundations, and research centers. **The website offers additional searchability and portability.**

### **\*\*Purpose\*\***

The purpose of this book is to provide "valuable, easy-to-understand educational information ... with official reports and releases about monitoring childhood growth and important milestones, community statistics, living with an ASD, and treatments and further resources for co-occurring conditions" (p. ix). These are worthy objectives. **Presenting the material in print and online format adds value. The book and website both meet the stated objectives.**

However, treatment can also help daily functioning. **The book contains positive parenting tips for children from 0-18 years of age.** Section Two provides resources including agencies, libraries, foundations, and research centers.

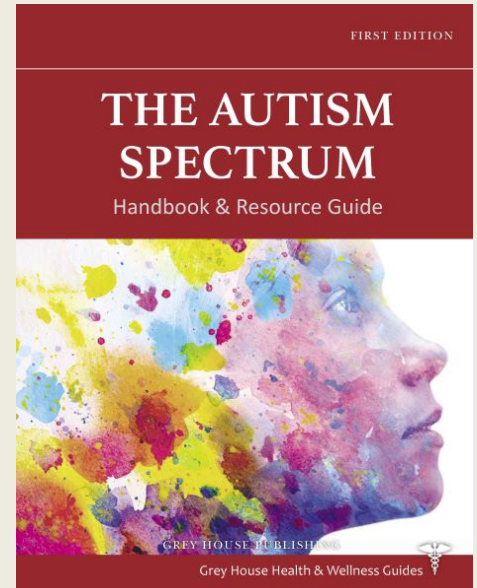
Section Three describes various psychiatric and medical disorders that may be associated with ASD, such as anxiety, ADHD, depression, seizure disorder, GI disorders, sleep disorders, and tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC). Section Four contains a glossary of terms, entry index, and geographic index. **The book is easy to read and includes figures/tables, which help to clarify the text.**

### **\*\*Assessment\*\***

**This book is an excellent resource for parents and professionals alike. It contains a wealth of information regarding ASD. Readers will not be disappointed with this book.**

Weighted Numerical Score: **94 - 4 Stars!**

**-Doody Reviews, May 2023**



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