

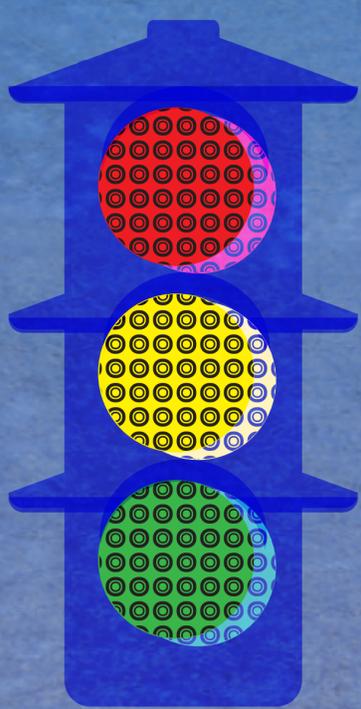
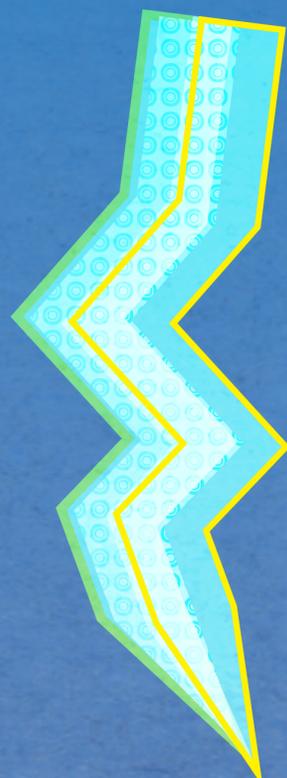
AUTISM AWARENESS

TIPS: for Parents, Guardians & Community Members

1

Bolting & Wandering

Nearly half of children with autism will wander or bolt from safe environments. They may seek out small or enclosed spaces. They may wander toward places of special interest to them. Or they may try to escape overwhelming stimuli such as sights, sounds, surroundings or activities of others.



2

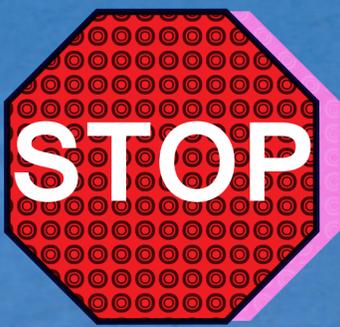
Alert the Community

Alert the community about other potential interests and attractions your child may have, including roadways/signs, highways, trains, heavy equipment, fire trucks, bright lights, traffic signals, and buses.

3

Water & Landmarks

Keep a map of local bodies of water, proximity to highways, and other landmarks near your home and child's school readily available. Encourage your child's school to post the map in the main office so it is readily accessible in case of emergency. Remember, a child's perception of natural water sources may be different than a dislike or fear of baths or pools.



4

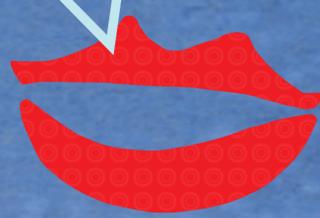
Keep Some Distance

Children with autism may shrink away from touch, so maintain a safe distance, keeping the child in sight without restraining the child.

5

Responding

Children with autism may be non-verbal, non-responsive to their name being called, and fearful of any close contact with people they do not know. They may bolt from something that makes them scared or uncomfortable and run towards something that attracts them, even if we perceive it as dangerous.



6

Talk to Law Enforcement

PARENTS: contact local law enforcement to determine if they administer any programs to help track your child in case of a wandering incident.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: If you come across a child who appears lost, stay with the child and call local law enforcement immediately. Wait with the child until help arrives.