

# Creating and Using Visual Supports

*A resource page for families, caregivers and educators supporting individuals with autism during Covid-19 school closures.*

Research shows that individuals with autism learn best when auditory information is represented in a visual and concrete format. Visual tools help to organize a sequence of events, supplement verbal instructions and cue communication or an action. The sites listed below will assist you in learning how to make and use visual tools as well as provide access to ready-made items to use at home and in the community.

## **About Visual Supports**

- Autism Speaks- <https://www.autismspeaks.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/Visual%20Supports%20Tool%20Kit.pdf>
- Autism Awareness Centre- <https://autismawarenesscentre.com/visual-supports-best-way-use/>

## **Picture Sources for Creating Visual Supports:**

- Google images
- Photographs
- Magazines and catalogs
- Labels from food products, toy boxes, etc.
- Restaurant menus



## **Ready-Made Visual Tools Related to the Coronavirus**

- Boardmaker- <https://goboardmaker.com/pages/coronavirus-resources>
- Autism Speaks- <https://www.autismspeaks.org/covid-19-information-and-resources>
- Autism Society- <https://www.autism-society.org/covid-19/>
- Linda Hodgdon Use Visual Strategies for Autism- <https://usevisualstrategies.com/autism-coronavirus-helping-students-understand/>
- Carol Grey Social Stories (Carol's Club)- <https://carolgraysocialstories.com/carols-club/>
- Sesame Street (includes videos) - <https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/topics/health-emergencies/>

## **Ready-Made, Commonly Used Visual Tools**

- Twinkl- <https://www.twinkl.com/search?term=autism+resources>
- National Autistic Society- <https://www.autism.org.uk/about/strategies/visual-supports.aspx>
- PrAACtical AAC- <https://praacticalaac.org/>
- Do2Learn- <https://www.do2learn.com>
- Linda Hodgdon: Use Visual Strategies for Autism – <https://www.usevisualstrategies.com>
- Family Implemented TEACCH for Toddlers (visual photo library)- <https://fitt.fpg.unc.edu/early-learning-activities-visual-supports>
- Google- [https://www.google.com/search?hl=en&biw=1235&bih=661&site=img&tbm=isch&sa=1&ei=ntl9W\\_OcMMTatQWv-5n4DQ&q=visual+strategies+autism+examples&oq=visual+strategies+autism+examples&gs\\_l=img.3...4604.5597.0.5815.7.7.0.0.0.64.405.7.7.0....0...1c.1.64.img..0.0.0....0.ts!GewG7sCM](https://www.google.com/search?hl=en&biw=1235&bih=661&site=img&tbm=isch&sa=1&ei=ntl9W_OcMMTatQWv-5n4DQ&q=visual+strategies+autism+examples&oq=visual+strategies+autism+examples&gs_l=img.3...4604.5597.0.5815.7.7.0.0.0.64.405.7.7.0....0...1c.1.64.img..0.0.0....0.ts!GewG7sCM)