the reason i jump by naoki higashida

The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida: A Window into the Autistic Mind

the reason i jump by naoki higashida is much more than just a book; it's a powerful narrative that offers a rare glimpse into the experiences of someone living with autism. Written by Naoki Higashida, who was only thirteen at the time, this book breaks down the barriers of misunderstanding and sheds light on the emotional and cognitive world of autistic individuals. For many readers, it has been an eye-opener that challenges preconceived notions and fosters empathy.

Understanding the significance of The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida requires delving into what motivated him to write it and what readers can expect to gain from it. This article explores the book's unique perspective, its impact on autism awareness, and why it continues to resonate with so many people around the world.

Who Is Naoki Higashida?

Before diving into the book itself, it's helpful to know a bit about its author. Naoki Higashida is a Japanese boy diagnosed with autism at a young age. Despite facing significant communication challenges, he developed an extraordinary ability to express his thoughts and feelings through writing. Using an alphabet grid to spell out words, Naoki crafted The Reason I Jump as a way to explain what goes on inside his mind.

Naoki's story is inspiring because it demonstrates that autism is not a limitation but a different way of perceiving and interacting with the world. His ability to communicate complex emotions and ideas disproves many stereotypes associated with autism.

What Is The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida About?

At its core, The Reason I Jump is a collection of answers to questions that many people ask about autism but rarely receive honest or clear responses. Structured as a series of short chapters, each one addresses a specific topic related to the autistic experience. Naoki covers everything from why he might engage in repetitive behaviors to how he processes emotions and sensory input.

One of the most striking features of the book is its straightforwardness. Naoki's explanations are simple yet profound, often poetic in their honesty. Through his words, readers gain insight into sensory overload, communication struggles, and the intense emotions that can accompany autism.

Breaking Down Common Misconceptions

The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida does an excellent job of dispelling

myths about autism. For example, Naoki explains that repetitive behaviors, often misunderstood as meaningless or disruptive, actually serve important functions like self-soothing or managing anxiety. He also clarifies that just because someone with autism may not speak often doesn't mean they don't have thoughts or feelings to share.

This kind of insight helps readers rethink how they perceive and interact with autistic individuals, encouraging patience and understanding.

The Impact of The Reason I Jump on Autism Awareness

Since its publication, The Reason I Jump has become an influential work in the world of autism advocacy and education. It has been translated into numerous languages and used as a resource by parents, educators, therapists, and individuals on the autism spectrum.

Bridging the Communication Gap

One of the biggest challenges in autism is the communication barrier. Many autistic individuals struggle to express their needs and emotions, which can lead to frustration and isolation. Naoki's book acts as a bridge, providing a voice for those who may not be able to speak for themselves.

By reading The Reason I Jump, caregivers and professionals gain a deeper empathy and a better understanding of how to support autistic people effectively.

Encouraging Inclusion and Acceptance

The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida promotes the idea that autism is not a disease to be cured, but a different way of being that deserves respect and acceptance. This message resonates strongly in education and social settings, where inclusion efforts continue to grow.

When people understand the "why" behind certain behaviors, they are more likely to embrace diversity and adapt environments to be more welcoming.

Writing Style and Accessibility

Naoki's writing style is both accessible and engaging, which is part of what makes The Reason I Jump so impactful. The book is written in a question-and-answer format that makes it easy to read in small sections, perfect for readers who want to absorb the content at their own pace.

Despite the simplicity of language, the emotional depth is profound, making the book resonate with readers of all ages and backgrounds.

Use of First-Person Perspective

The first-person narrative is especially powerful because it personalizes the experience of autism. Naoki doesn't just describe behaviors; he shares his feelings and thoughts, inviting readers into his world. This approach helps humanize autism and counters stereotypes that can dehumanize autistic individuals.

How The Reason I Jump Can Help Families and Educators

For families with autistic members, The Reason I Jump offers a valuable tool for understanding and communication. It provides language and explanations that can help parents relate to their child's experience better.

Educators also find the book useful for designing more inclusive classrooms and adapting teaching methods to meet diverse learning needs.

Practical Tips Inspired by the Book

While The Reason I Jump is primarily an autobiographical and explanatory work, it indirectly offers practical insights that families and educators can apply:

- Patience is key: Recognize that communication might take different forms and time.
- Observe behaviors: Instead of judging repetitive actions, try to understand their purpose.
- Create sensory-friendly environments: Be mindful of potential sensory overload triggers.
- Encourage alternative communication: Utilize tools like picture cards or technology to support expression.
- Foster emotional support: Validate feelings even when they aren't expressed verbally.

These tips align with the deeper understanding that Naoki's book promotes.

The Reason I Jump's Role in Autism Literature

Autism literature has grown over the years, but The Reason I Jump stands out as one of the first accounts written by a non-speaking autistic individual. It has opened the door for more voices from within the autistic community to be heard.

This book has paved the way for a shift from viewing autism through a purely clinical lens to appreciating it as a unique human experience.

Influence on Subsequent Works

Inspired by Naoki Higashida's honesty and clarity, many authors and advocates have since shared their stories. The Reason I Jump has become a cornerstone text that educators, therapists, and parents often recommend to gain authentic insight.

Why This Book Still Matters Today

More than a decade after its release, The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida continues to be relevant. Autism awareness has improved, but misunderstandings persist. Naoki's voice remains a crucial reminder that behind every diagnosis is a person with thoughts, feelings, and hopes.

The book encourages ongoing dialogue about how society can be more inclusive and supportive of neurodiversity.

Naoki's message is timeless: understanding stems from listening with empathy and openness.

Reading The Reason I Jump invites us all to reconsider how we perceive difference and to recognize the value in every individual's perspective. It's a step toward a more compassionate world where everyone's voice can be heard—even those who communicate in ways that differ from the norm.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Reason I Jump' by Naoki Higashida about?

'The Reason I Jump' is a memoir written by Naoki Higashida, a non-verbal autistic teenager, which provides insights into the thoughts, feelings, and experiences of people with autism through a series of questions and answers.

Who is Naoki Higashida?

Naoki Higashida is a Japanese author who was diagnosed with autism at a young age. Despite being non-verbal, he learned to communicate using an alphabet grid and wrote 'The Reason I Jump' when he was 13 years old.

How does Naoki Higashida communicate in the book?

Naoki Higashida uses an alphabet grid to spell out words by pointing to letters, which allows him to communicate despite being non-verbal. This method is explained in the book and helps readers understand his perspective.

Why is 'The Reason I Jump' important for understanding autism?

The book offers a rare and authentic insight into the mind of a person with autism, challenging common misconceptions and helping readers empathize with autistic individuals by sharing their internal experiences and thought processes.

What writing style is used in 'The Reason I Jump'?

The book is written in a question-and-answer format, where Naoki responds to common questions about autism and his experiences, making the content accessible and engaging for readers.

Has 'The Reason I Jump' been translated into other languages?

Yes, 'The Reason I Jump' has been translated into multiple languages, including English, and has reached a global audience, helping to raise awareness and understanding of autism worldwide.

What impact has 'The Reason I Jump' had on autism awareness?

The book has significantly contributed to autism awareness by providing a firsthand perspective, influencing educators, caregivers, and the general public to better understand and support individuals with autism.

Is 'The Reason I Jump' suitable for all readers?

While the book is accessible to a wide audience, it is particularly valuable for parents, educators, and anyone interested in autism. Some readers may find the content emotionally challenging, but it is generally considered an enlightening and compassionate work.

Additional Resources

The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida: A Profound Insight into the Autistic Mind

the reason i jump by naoki higashida is a groundbreaking memoir that offers an intimate glimpse into the experiences and inner world of a non-verbal autistic teenager. Written by Naoki Higashida when he was just thirteen years old, this book has garnered widespread attention for its unique perspective on autism spectrum disorder (ASD). By articulating the thoughts, feelings, and motivations behind behaviors often misunderstood by society, Higashida challenges conventional narratives around autism and fosters a greater sense of empathy and comprehension.

The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida stands out not merely as a personal account but as an educational tool that bridges the communication gap between autistic individuals and neurotypical readers. Its impact resonates deeply within families, educators, clinicians, and advocates seeking to understand autism beyond surface-level stereotypes.

Understanding the Core Themes of The Reason I Jump

At its heart, The Reason I Jump addresses common misconceptions about autism, especially regarding communication difficulties and behavioral expressions. Higashida employs a question—and—answer format, responding to inquiries that typical readers might pose about autism. This structure effectively demystifies the behaviors and thought processes of autistic individuals, illustrating that actions often perceived as irrational or inexplicable are in fact meaningful responses to sensory overload, emotional turbulence, or cognitive differences.

The book's narrative style is refreshingly candid and accessible, which has contributed to its global appeal. By sharing his personal reflections, Higashida humanizes autism in a way that transcends clinical descriptions and diagnostic criteria.

Communication Barriers and the Use of Assistive Technology

One of the most compelling aspects of The Reason I Jump is its exploration of communication challenges faced by non-verbal autistic individuals. Naoki Higashida himself utilizes a letter board and other assistive communication methods, which he describes in detail. This insight helps readers appreciate the complexity of non-verbal communication and the patience required to unlock the voices of those who cannot speak conventionally.

The book highlights how assistive technologies and alternative communication techniques empower autistic people to express their thoughts and emotions, thereby fostering inclusion and understanding. It also sheds light on the frustrations and misunderstandings that arise when such tools are unavailable or underutilized.

Emotional and Sensory Experiences in Autism

Another significant contribution of The Reason I Jump is its vivid depiction of sensory sensitivities and emotional regulation difficulties often associated with autism. Higashida explains, for example, how overwhelming stimuli such as loud noises or bright lights can trigger anxiety or meltdowns. These descriptions provide context for behaviors that might otherwise be misinterpreted as defiant or attention-seeking.

By offering a window into his sensory world, Higashida challenges readers to reconsider preconceived notions about what constitutes "normal" behavior. This perspective encourages empathy and advocates for environments that accommodate sensory differences.

Comparative Insights: The Reason I Jump and

Other Autism Literature

When compared to other seminal works on autism, such as Temple Grandin's autobiographical writings or Tony Attwood's clinical guides, The Reason I Jump occupies a unique niche. Whereas Grandin's books often focus on high-functioning autism and Attwood's on diagnostic and therapeutic frameworks, Higashida's memoir centers on the lived experience of a young, non-verbal autistic person.

This distinction is important because non-verbal individuals represent a significant but frequently overlooked segment of the autism spectrum. The Reason I Jump amplifies their voices, which are often marginalized in mainstream discourse.

Moreover, the book's straightforward, heartfelt approach contrasts with more technical or academic treatments of autism, making it accessible to a broader audience. It complements clinical literature by adding depth and nuance to the understanding of ASD.

Pros and Cons of The Reason I Jump as an Educational Resource

• Pros:

- Provides authentic insight into non-verbal autism from a first-person perspective.
- Uses simple language accessible to both laypeople and professionals.
- \circ Encourages empathy and reduces stigma associated with autistic behaviors.
- \circ Offers practical understanding of communication methods and sensory issues.

• Cons:

- o Some readers may find the question-and-answer format repetitive.
- The book reflects one individual's experience, which may not be universally representative.
- Limited discussion on interventions or therapies beyond communication aids.

The Cultural and Global Impact of The Reason I Jump

Since its publication, The Reason I Jump has been translated into multiple languages and embraced worldwide as a vital contribution to autism awareness. Its success underscores a growing demand for authentic autistic voices in literature and advocacy.

The book has influenced educational policies, prompting schools and caregivers to adopt more individualized and compassionate approaches tailored to the needs of autistic students. It also serves as a resource for healthcare professionals seeking to deepen their understanding of patient experiences beyond clinical symptoms.

Furthermore, The Reason I Jump has sparked conversations about neurodiversity and the importance of accepting neurological differences as part of human variation rather than deficits. This paradigm shift aligns with modern advocacy movements emphasizing respect, inclusion, and empowerment for autistic individuals.

Continuing the Dialogue: Adaptations and Related Works

The resonance of The Reason I Jump extends beyond the printed page. A documentary film inspired by the book further explores Higashida's story and the broader autism spectrum, reaching new audiences through visual storytelling.

Additionally, Naoki Higashida has authored follow-up books offering further insight into the autistic experience, contributing to a growing body of work that challenges misconceptions and promotes understanding.

For families, educators, and practitioners, these resources collectively offer valuable tools for engagement, support, and fostering meaningful connections with autistic individuals.

The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida remains a seminal work that transcends traditional autism narratives. Its honest and thoughtful exploration of the autistic mind continues to inspire empathy, bridge communication gaps, and reshape societal attitudes toward autism spectrum disorder.

The Reason I Jump By Naoki Higashida

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the reason i jump by naoki higashida: The Reason I Jump: one boy's voice from the silence of

autism Naoki Higashida, 2013-07-01 The No. 1 Sunday Times and internationally bestselling account of life as a child with autism, now a documentary film Winner of Best Documentary and Best Sound in the British Independent Film Awards 2021. 'It will stretch your vision of what it is to be human' Andrew Solomon, The Times What is it like to have autism? How can we know what a person especially a child - with autism is thinking and feeling? This groundbreaking book, written by Naoki Higashida when he was only thirteen, provides some answers. Severely autistic and non-verbal, Naoki learnt to communicate by using a 'cardboard keyboard' - and what he has to say gives a rare insight into an autistically-wired mind. He explains behaviour he's aware can be baffling such as why he likes to jump and why some people with autism dislike being touched; he describes how he perceives and navigates the world, sharing his thoughts and feelings about time, life, beauty and nature; and he offers an unforgettable short story. Proving that people with autism do not lack imagination, humour or empathy, THE REASON I JUMP made a major impact on its publication in English. Widely praised, it was an immediate No. 1 Sunday Times bestseller as well as a New York Times bestseller and has since been published in over thirty languages. In 2020, a documentary film based on the book received its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival. Directed by Jerry Rothwell, produced by Jeremy Dear, Stevie Lee and Al Morrow, and funded by Vulcan Productions and the British Film Institute, it won the festival's Audience Award for World Cinema Documentary, then further awards at the Vancouver, Denver and Valladolid International Film Festivals before its global release in 2021. The book includes eleven original illustrations inspired by Naoki's words, by the artistic duo Kai and Sunny.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: *The Reason I Jump* Naoki Higashida, David Mitchell, 2013 A rare and important insight into the mind of an autistic child, in his own words. Translated by and with a moving introduction from the award-winning author of CLOUD ATLAS, David Mitchell.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: The Reason I Jump Naoki Higashida, 2013-08-27 "One of the most remarkable books I've ever read. It's truly moving, eye-opening, incredibly vivid."-Jon Stewart, The Daily Show NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR • The Wall Street Journal • Bloomberg Business • Bookish FINALIST FOR THE BOOKS FOR A BETTER LIFE FIRST BOOK AWARD • NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER You've never read a book like The Reason I Jump. Written by Naoki Higashida, a very smart, very self-aware, and very charming thirteen-vear-old boy with autism, it is a one-of-a-kind memoir that demonstrates how an autistic mind thinks, feels, perceives, and responds in ways few of us can imagine. Parents and family members who never thought they could get inside the head of their autistic loved one at last have a way to break through to the curious, subtle, and complex life within. Using an alphabet grid to painstakingly construct words, sentences, and thoughts that he is unable to speak out loud, Naoki answers even the most delicate questions that people want to know. Questions such as: "Why do people with autism talk so loudly and weirdly?" "Why do you line up your toy cars and blocks?" "Why don't you make eye contact when you're talking?" and "What's the reason you jump?" (Naoki's answer: "When I'm jumping, it's as if my feelings are going upward to the sky.") With disarming honesty and a generous heart, Naoki shares his unique point of view on not only autism but life itself. His insights—into the mystery of words, the wonders of laughter, and the elusiveness of memory—are so startling, so strange, and so powerful that you will never look at the world the same way again. In his introduction, bestselling novelist David Mitchell writes that Naoki's words allowed him to feel, for the first time, as if his own autistic child was explaining what was happening in his mind. "It is no exaggeration to say that The Reason I Jump allowed me to round a corner in our relationship." This translation was a labor of love by David and his wife, KA Yoshida, so they'd be able to share that feeling with friends, the wider autism community, and beyond. Naoki's book, in its beauty, truthfulness, and simplicity, is a gift to be shared. Praise for The Reason I Jump "This is an intimate book, one that brings readers right into an autistic mind."—Chicago Tribune (Editor's Choice) "Amazing times a million."—Whoopi Goldberg, People "The Reason I Jump is a Rosetta stone. . . . This book takes about ninety minutes to read, and it will stretch your vision of what it is to be human."—Andrew Solomon, The Times (U.K.) "Extraordinary, moving, and jeweled with

epiphanies."—The Boston Globe "Small but profound . . . [Higashida's] startling, moving insights offer a rare look inside the autistic mind."—Parade

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: Summary of Naoki Higashida's The Reason I Jump Milkyway Media, 2025-07-16 Buy now to get the main key ideas from Naoki Higashida's The Reason I Jump Naoki Higashida's The Reason I Jump (2013) provides profound insights into the often misunderstood inner world of individuals with autism. Through his painstakingly crafted words, Naoki dismantles common misconceptions and reveals the rich tapestry of thoughts, emotions, and sensory perceptions that he cannot speak aloud. Naoki emphasizes the frustration of communication barriers, the yearning for connection, and the internal struggle to control involuntary behaviors. He invites readers to journey into his world, urging them to look beyond outward appearances. Translated by English novelist David Mitchell and his wife KA Yoshida, this moving account has helped many families feel closer to their autistic loved ones.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: Summary of The Reason I Jump by Naoki Higashida Paul Adams / Bookhabits, 2019-01-09 The Reason I Jump: The Inner Voice of a Thirteen-Year-Old Boy with Autism by Naoki Higashida: Conversation Starters To make myself understood, it's like I have to speak in an unknown foreign language, every minute, every day, Naoki Higashida explains. He honestly answers questions like: Why do you repeat what others tell you? Why don't you look at people's eyes when you talk to them? Why are you always alone? Why do you talk so loudly? Why do you jump? He says even if they don't appear to remember or learn from mistakes, they actually do, although they could really be slow in the process. Higashida's primary message in this book is for people not to give up on individuals like him. The Reason I Jump is a New York Times bestseller and is named one of the best books of the year by The Wall Street Journal, NPR, Bookish, and Bloomberg Business. It was named a finalist for the Books for a Better Life First Book Award. A Brief Look Inside: EVERY GOOD BOOK CONTAINS A WORLD FAR DEEPER than the surface of its pages. The characters and their world come alive, and the characters and its world still live on. Conversation Starters is peppered with questions designed to bring us beneath the surface of the page and invite us into the world that lives on. These guestions can be used to.. Create Hours of Conversation: -Promote an atmosphere of discussion for groups - Foster a deeper understanding of the book - Assist in the study of the book, either individually or corporately - Explore unseen realms of the book as never seen before Disclaimer: This book you are about to enjoy is an independent resource meant to supplement the original book. If you have not yet read the original book, we encourage you to before purchasing this unofficial Conversation Starters.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: Summary of Naoki Higashida's The Reason I Jump Everest Media,, 2022-03-25T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 The Alphabet Grid is a method of non-vocal communication. It makes it possible to form your words by simply pointing to their letters, instead of having to write them out one by one. This allows you to anchor your words, which would otherwise flutter off as soon as you tried to speak them.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: Fall Down 7 Times Get Up 8 Naoki Higashida, 2017-07-11 From the author of the bestselling The Reason I Jump, an extraordinary self-portrait of a young adult with autism "Essential reading for parents and teachers of those with autism who remain nonverbal."—Temple Grandin Naoki Higashida was only thirteen when he wrote The Reason I Jump, a revelatory account of autism from the inside by a nonverbal Japanese child, which became an international success. Now, in Fall Down 7 Times Get Up 8, he shares his thoughts and experiences as a young man living each day with severe autism. In short, powerful chapters, Higashida explores school memories, family relationships, the exhilaration of travel, and the difficulties of speech. He also allows readers to experience profound moments we take for granted, like the thought-steps necessary for him to register that it's raining outside. Acutely aware of how strange his behavior can appear to others, he aims throughout to foster a better understanding of autism and to encourage society to see people with disabilities as people, not as problems. With an introduction by the bestselling novelist David Mitchell, Fall Down 7 Times Get Up 8 also includes a

dreamlike short story Higashida wrote especially for the U.S. edition. Both moving and of practical use, this book opens a window into the mind of an inspiring young man who meets every challenge with tenacity and good humor. However often he falls down, he always gets back up. Praise for Fall Down 7 Times Get Up 8 "[Naoki Higashida's] success as a writer now transcends his diagnosis. . . . His relative isolation—with words as his primary connection to the outside world—has allowed him to fully develop the powers of observation that are necessary for good writing, and he has developed rich, deep perspectives on ideas that many take for granted. . . . The diversity of Higashida's writing, in both subject and style, fits together like a jigsaw puzzle of life put in place with humor and thoughtfulness."—The Japan Times "Profound insights about what the struggle of living with autism is really like . . . Once again, the invitation to step inside Higashida's mind is irresistible."—London Evening Standard "Naoki Higashida's lyrical and heartfelt account of his condition is a gift to anyone involved with the same challenges. . . . Higashida shows a delicate regard for the difficulties his condition creates . . . and is adept at explaining his experiences in language that makes sense to neurotypicals."—The Guardian

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the reason i jump by naoki higashida: Magnificent Minds Suzanne Goh, MD, 2024-04-09 An essential primer based on a renowned new model of care that is comprehensive and research based, while honoring the uniqueness of every child An estimated one in thirty-six children in the United States is diagnosed with autism. New research has shed light on the many factors that determine a child's trajectory—but many parents are still navigating this complex terrain without a road map. Pediatric neurologist Dr. Suzanne Goh has spent decades working with autistic children, and in this practical and research-based guide she shares her renowned and revolutionary model of care: an innovative, whole-child approach that combines optimal medical treatment with the most effective strategies for advancing cognition, communication, and behavior. Demystifying a wide range of diagnostics and therapies and offering new insights into the neurological, biochemical, behavioral, and social factors that play a role in successful outcomes, the book is an essential resource for understanding all of autism—a strengths-based approach that helps parents design a comprehensive treatment plan. It is also a celebration of what each autistic person brings to the world—and how parents can best nurture the remarkable uniqueness of their child while setting them up for the future they envision.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: The Autism Language Launcher Kate Wilde, 2019-08-21 Do you want to help your child on the autism spectrum to verbally communicate with you and others? You've picked up the right book. The Autism Language Launcher gives you something

totally new: a step-by-step guide that ignites language lift-off by using methods such as tapping into your child's innate intelligence, going with your child instead of against your child and providing techniques that work with adults on the spectrum. Written for parents, relatives, professionals, educators, or caregivers of a child or adult who is not yet verbal, making some sounds, using some words, speaking in single words, or using two-word phrases, this book uses the author's decades of experience with children and adults on the spectrum. Kate also demonstrates how to effectively address your child's echolalia, repetitious language, and repetitive questions in a way that your child will find supportive, bonding, and even joyful. Ultimately, this book shows you how to make language happen.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: Serving Teens and Adults on the Autism Spectrum Carrie Rogers-Whitehead, 2020-10-01 Understand the unique needs of teens and adults with autism and how to adapt existing library programs to be more inclusive. Autism spectrum disorder is a lifelong condition, but programs and services are mostly for children. As this population ages and the number of adults receiving autism diagnoses grows, are public libraries serving this group? Serving Teens and Adults on the Autism Spectrum offers practical strategies for delivering better service to individuals with autism, from library programming to technology, collections, library volunteers, and the information desk. Relying on feedback and help from the autism community in her area, Carrie Rogers-Whitehead created programs for children, teens, and young adults on the autism spectrum. In this book, she shares advice on developing programs that focus on teamwork, transitions, and social skills. She explains best practices for reference interviews and teaches readers how their libraries can partner with nonprofit and government entities to develop workforce skills and connect adults with autism to jobs. Ready-made program activities for teens and adults with autism make it easy for libraries to better serve this often misunderstood group.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: Curious Minds Perry Zurn, Dani S. Bassett, 2023-09-05 An exhilarating, genre-bending exploration of curiosity's powerful capacity to connect ideas and people. Curious about something? Google it. Look at it. Ask a question. But is curiosity simply information seeking? According to this exhilarating, genre-bending book, what's left out of the conventional understanding of curiosity are the wandering tracks, the weaving concepts, the knitting of ideas, and the thatching of knowledge systems—the networks, the relations between ideas and between people. Curiosity, say Perry Zurn and Dani Bassett, is a practice of connection: it connects ideas into networks of knowledge, and it connects knowers themselves, both to the knowledge they seek and to each other. Zurn and Bassett-identical twins who write that their book "represents the thought of one mind and two bodies"—harness their respective expertise in the humanities and the sciences to get irrepressibly curious about curiosity. Traipsing across literatures of antiquity and medieval science, Victorian poetry and nature essays, as well as work by writers from a variety of marginalized communities, they trace a multitudinous curiosity. They identify three styles of curiosity—the busybody, who collects stories, creating loose knowledge networks; the hunter, who hunts down secrets or discoveries, creating tight networks; and the dancer, who takes leaps of creative imagination, creating loopy ones. Investigating what happens in a curious brain, they offer an accessible account of the network neuroscience of curiosity. And they sketch out a new kind of curiosity-centric and inclusive education that embraces everyone's curiosity. The book performs the very curiosity that it describes, inviting readers to participate—to be curious with the book and not simply about it.

the reason i jump by naoki higashida: The Politics of Autism Dr. Bryna Siegel, 2018-08-01 The Politics of Autism investigates the truths and fictions of public understanding about autism, questioning apparent realities too sensitive or impolitic to challenge. Is there really more autism? How has the count expanded by diagnosing autism over other conditions? Have scientific methods in autism diagnosis gone hand-in-hand with autism increases? Are mild autism cases really a 'disorder,' rather than personality variant? Can autism be quiescent in childhood but truly first recognizable in adulthood? Why does popular media often portray people with autism as odd geniuses ignoring the kind of autism most have? Siegel tackles thorny issues and perennial questions: How do we weigh

likely treatment gains with treatment costs? Why does our autism education persist in teaching academic subjects some never master? Why do we fail to plan realistically for autistic adulthood? Which parents get caught up in non-mainstream 'treatments' and fear of vaccines? Readers will see an insider's view of controversies in autism research. Siegel's views, sometimes iconoclastic, always frank and informed, challenge broad unexamined assumptions about our understanding of autism. Each chapter addresses different issues, data, and social policy recommendations. A chapter-by-chapter bibliography with URLs provides both popular media and scientific references.

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