

I Have Autism

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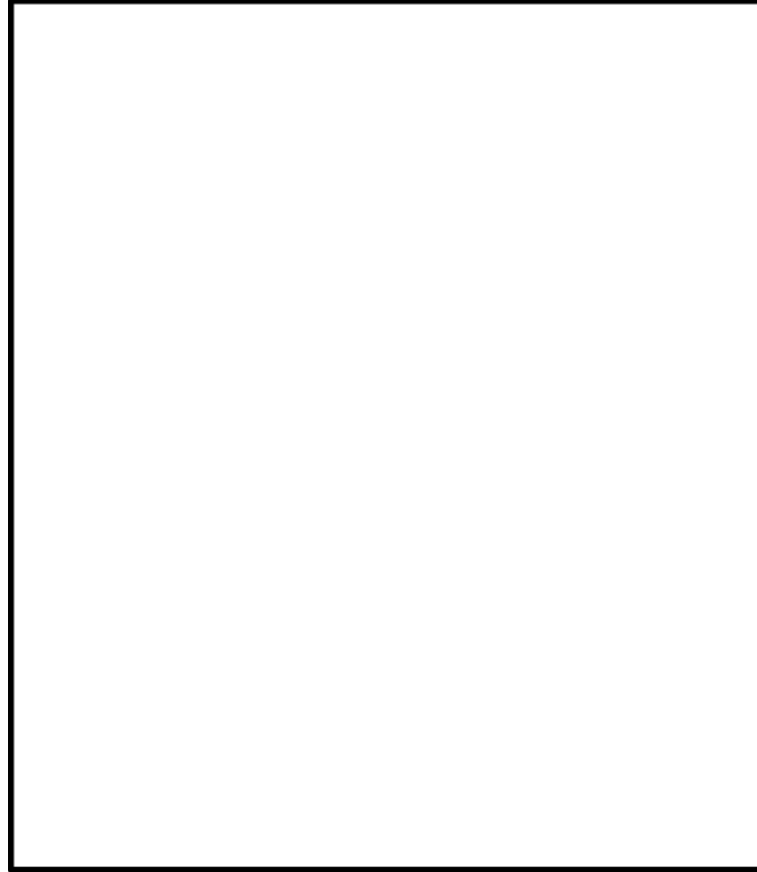
Written by Shari Medini
Illustrated by you!

I have autism.

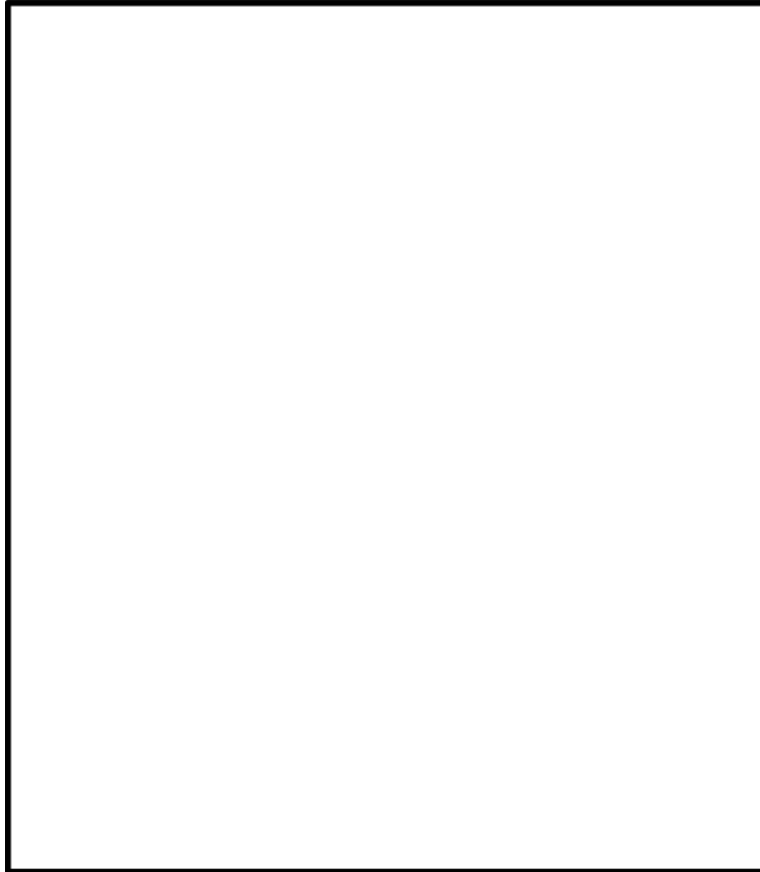
Since I have autism, some things will be harder for me than they are for other kids my age, but there are a lot of things that I will be better at too.



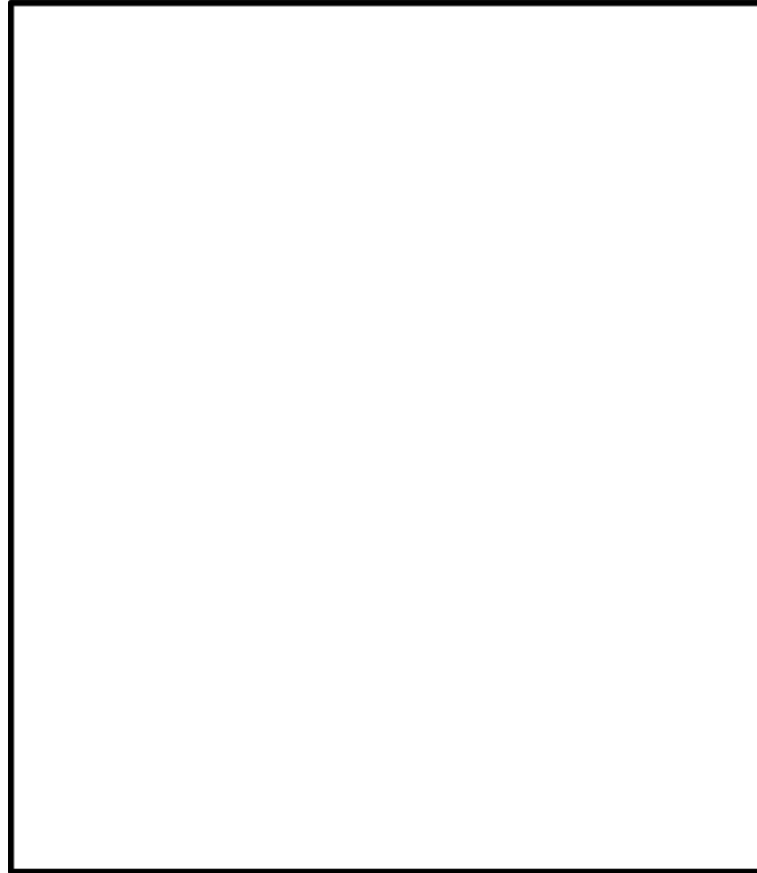
Autism means that my brain works differently than some other kids. It's not really a big deal though because everybody's brain works differently than each other's.



**My dad's brain likes to think about motorcycles and fixing the roof.
My mom's brain likes to think about friends and taking care of us kids.**



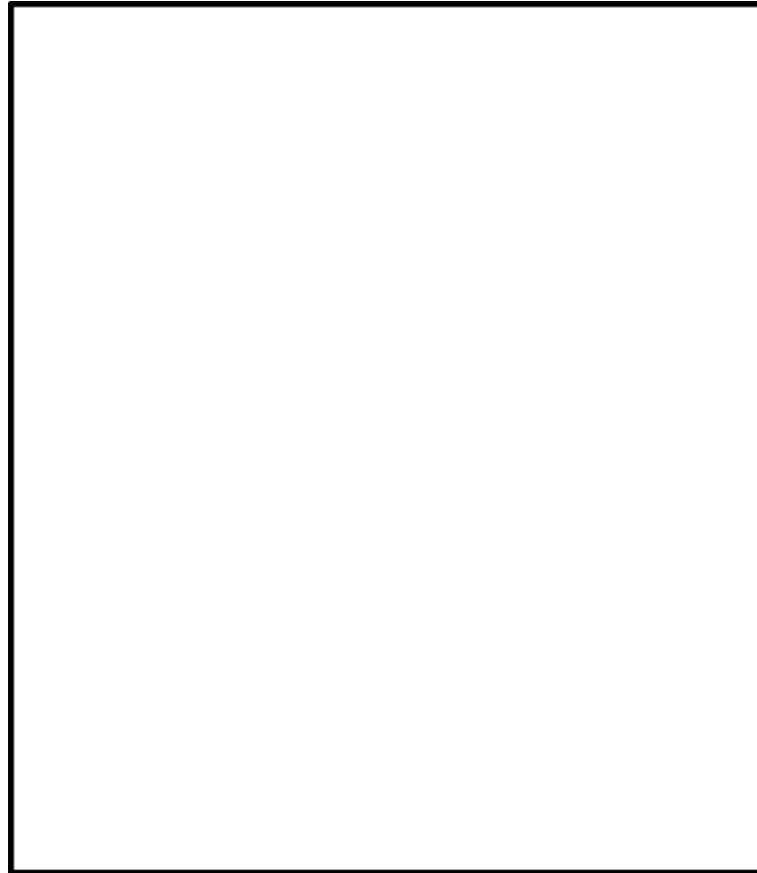
Having autism isn't always easy. That's why I have therapists that help me so that I don't get too frustrated. My therapists help me learn new things to make life easier for me.



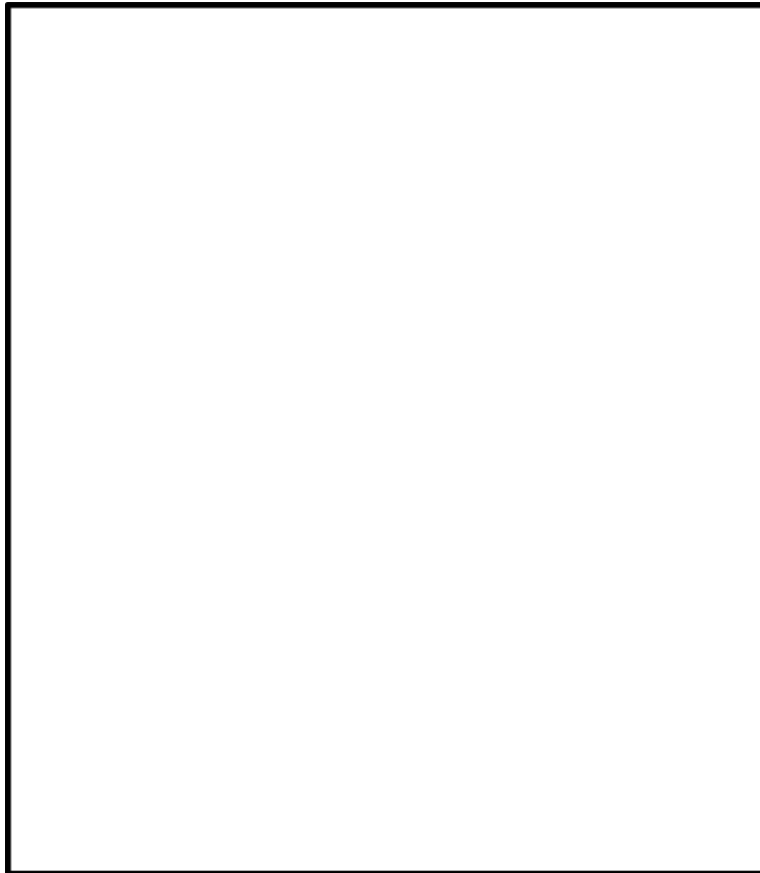
**Having autism means that sometimes
I have trouble getting people to
understand what I'm trying to tell them.
Sometimes I can't find the right
words to go with my thoughts.**



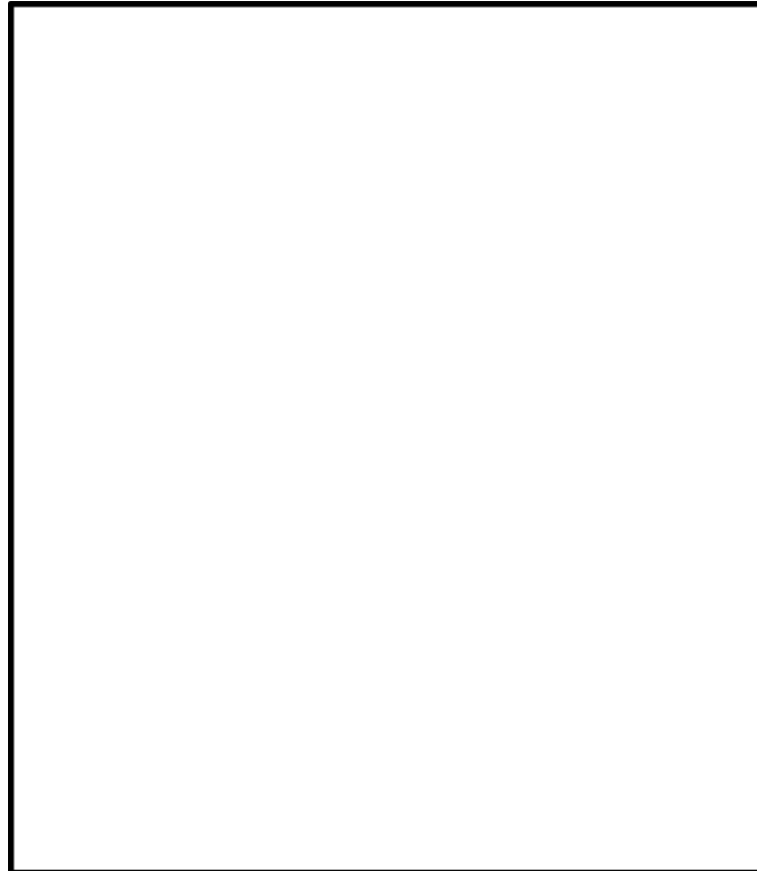
**Sometimes I don't understand what
other people are trying to tell me.
Sometimes I don't understand why
other kids play the way they do.**



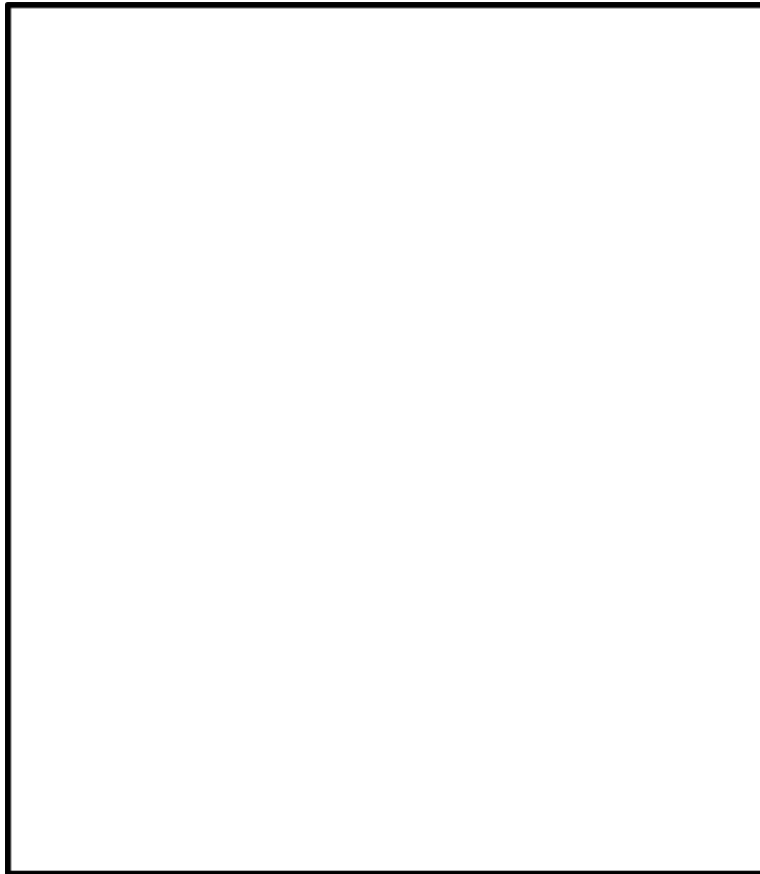
Sometimes my body feels funny, and I need help to feel okay again. Like sometimes I have a hard time calming myself down, but someone pushing on my shoulders or wearing a heavy backpack helps.



Sometimes things bother me that don't bother other people like a soft touch on my arm, bright lights, or a loud noise.



**Having autism is hard, but it also means that I'm really good at stuff too!
I can remember things that other people forget. I am really funny.
I can figure out ways of doing things that nobody else has thought of.**



**I have autism.
And I'm okay with that.
Because it makes me who I am,
and I am loved just the way that I am.**

