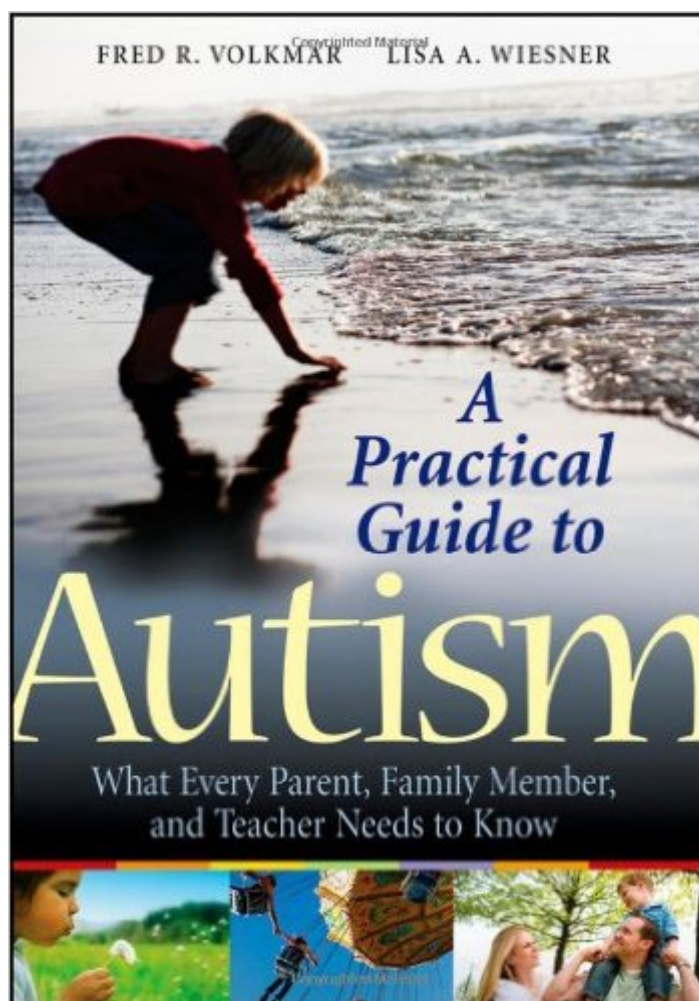


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# A Practical Guide To Autism: What Every Parent, Family Member, And Teacher Needs To Know



## Synopsis

Autism is in the public spotlight now more than ever as new research and information appears almost daily. Although in many ways this is a positive development it also presents challenges to families and practitioners who want to keep up with the latest developments and are left to sift through new information by themselves to see what is credible and relevant for them. Each of us needs a personal research assistant who can determine which information we need to pay attention to and let us know how it might affect our daily work and the children we are living with or serve. Since we each don't have our own research assistants on staff, I am delighted to recommend this wonderful book by Fred Volkmar and Lisa Wiesner. Both of these talented professional leaders have combined their scientific skills and understanding of the field with great practical experience and ideas about how research can be translated into clinical practice. The result is a book that provides the best and most comprehensive information about recent scientific developments and a splendid practical guide for how they are being implemented and what we are learning in the process. The issues are presented in all of their complexity but translated into language that is clear, direct, and easy to follow. The format also lends itself to understanding the complex issues and their implications through excellent charts, question and answer sections, and chapters that vary from describing diagnostic issues to stating very specifically how to expand and evaluate the services one is receiving. The comprehensive references and lists of additional resources also add greatly to the overall package. As a professional dedicated to understanding scientific advances and helping families and teachers to utilize them most effectively, I am very pleased to have an ally like this book available. I am very grateful to the authors for providing a very credible, practical, and relevant addition to our field to help the many advocates and family practitioners to better understand the exciting new developments and how they can be implemented in our day to day work. Those taking the time to read through this superb volume will find it time well spent that pays back dividends in many different ways.

â "FOREWORD by Gary B. Mesibov, Ph.D., Professor and Director of TEACCH, Treatment and Education of Autistic and Related Communication Handicapped Children University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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## Customer Reviews

I spent the weekend reading "A Practical Guide To Autism: What every Parent, Family Member, and Teacher Needs to Know" and have already recommended it to two families. What a wonderful resource! I am also considering it as a requirement for my students in the ASD Masters Degree Program because of the depth and breadth of topics it contains. I will be speaking at a seminar for School Counselors and School Psychologists in the near future and will bring the book along to share with this group as well. This book is an outstanding contribution to family and professional autism resources. Dr Ruth Eren, EdD

Dr. Volkmar isn't as sexy as Jenny McCarthy, but he knows a heck of a lot more about autism. As a speech pathologist with 10 years working with autistic children and adolescents, and as a parent of a 4-year-old with autism, I recommend this book as an excellent resource for both parents and professionals. It is heavy on science and light on mumbo-jumbo, but it is not a difficult read. Definitely a must-have for anyone whose life is impacted by autism.

Volkmar and Wiesner's book is the most comprehensive, authoritative and easy to read book on autism for parents. Volkmar is a world authority, and his co-author and wife is a practicing pediatrician. It includes chapters on safety, seizures, medications, sleep and health problem as well as characteristics of autism. Each chapter includes FAQs by parents. A superb book.

This book is an exceptional resource for people involved with a child or children with ASD. From practical advice, information about research and therapies, education, legal implications for special education and beyond, dealing with home and school, to essential scientific information, this book covers it all, and well. It is meticulously researched and documented. The authors understand the

emotion behind the diagnosis, and get to the need for more and better information. It should be in every special ed classroom, and in the hands of every parent or guardian with a child on the spectrum. I use it almost every week in dealing with some issue regarding my autistic child. I have dozens of books about autism, many written by self-proclaimed experts. This one really is written by world famous experts, who write in a readable and reasonable way. The information they give is transferable to real life. The book is a gem.

As a Special Educator of 20 years as well as the parent of a child on the Autism Spectrum, I can say with certainty that this is the most comprehensive, authoritative, up-to-date, reader-friendly book on Autism in existence. I have purchased many books and this is the ONLY one I recommend to parents of children on the spectrum. It is a great teacher resource to be sure, but I bought it more for home use with my autistic child. I refer to it time and again for information and reassurance. If someone in your life has an Autism Spectrum Disorder, please do yourself a favor and buy this book today.

This book is the most comprehensive resource on autism available today. Written by the Director of the Yale Child Study Center and his pediatrician wife, this book combines practical advice and evidence-based strategies to assist you at every stage of development.

This book is accessible and easy to read. It's a perfect companion for parents as they navigate through the process of identification and treatment. For the professional, it's an excellent overview resource that touches on a team approach toward ASDs.

I purchased this book for school. It is very informative and provides various details regarding Autism characteristics and resources to support parent and educators. I would definitely recommend this book.

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