

THE ATYPICAL CHILD MANIFESTO



What adults often say / **What I wish they would understand:**

I DON'T LISTEN. **WORDS DON'T ALWAYS MAKE SENSE TO ME.**
I TEST LIMITS. **SHIFTING FROM ONE ACTIVITY TO ANOTHER IS REALLY HARD.**
I MANIPULATE. **I LACK THE SKILLS TO EXPRESS MY NEEDS IN A BETTER WAY.**
I AM OPPOSITIONAL. **WHEN I FEEL ANXIOUS, I BECOME DEFENSIVE. I CAN'T HELP IT!**
I BEHAVE BADLY. **I CAN'T ANTICIPATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF MY ACTIONS.**
I SEEK ATTENTION. **I DON'T KNOW HOW TO INTERACT IN APPROPRIATE WAYS.**
I AM NOT MOTIVATED. **I AM AFRAID TO MAKE MISTAKES.**
I FOOL AROUND. **I DON'T KNOW HOW TO ORGANIZE MY ACTIONS & THOUGHTS.**
I AM FUSSY. **SOME THINGS IN THE ENVIRONMENT REALLY BOTHER ME.**
I AM DISRUPTIVE. **I AM HUNGRY, TIRED, AND/OR SCARED.**



**IT'S TIME
TO CHANGE
OUR OLD LENSES.**



The way we interpret behaviours influences our responses.

A behaviour is usually more than what it seems.

**Most atypical children have difficulties in the areas of:
pragmatic language, flexible thinking, problem solving, self-control,
emotional regulation, perspective taking, and social skills.**

Look beyond what the eyes can see.