



Summer Kinard, M.Div., Th.M.

# ACCESSIBLE CHURCH SCHOOL

*Adaptive Learning for Autistic & ADHD Learners*





**ACCESSIBILITY MEANS  
USING BEST PRACTICES  
FOR ALL LEARNERS.**

**INVISIBLE DISABILITIES ARE STILL  
PHYSICAL DISABILITIES. THEY ARE  
STILL REAL. THEY REQUIRE REAL  
ACCOMMODATIONS.**

**AUTISM AND ADHD AREN'T IMAGINARY. THEY ARE  
CONDITIONS THAT STEM FROM NEUROLOGICAL AND  
BIOCHEMICAL DIFFERENCES THAT HAVE SOME  
DISABLING CHARACTERISTICS.**

# SENSORY SENSITIVITIES

INCREASED NEED FOR MOVEMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

# MOTOR COORDINATION

INCLUDING SPEECH AND POSTURAL CHALLENGES

# EMOTIONAL PROCESSING

SOMETIMES DELAYED, SOMETIMES INTENSE, SOMETIMES DIFFERENT

# EXTREME SINCERITY

HONESTY IS A SIGN OF RESPECT IN NEURODIVERSE COMMUNITIES

# NEED FOR COHERENCE

IF YOU SAY YOU VALUE SOMETHING, ACT LIKE IT

# DESIRE TO CONNECT

WE NEVER SHED THE ATTACHMENT SYNAPSES, SO REJECTION FEELS DEVASTATING

# RULE FOLLOWING

WE WILL DISCERN PATTERNS AND FOLLOW THEM EVEN IF UNSTATED

# \*PERFECTIONISM AS A

# SOCIAL STRATEGY\*

PEOPLE WITH ADHD WILL TRY TO CONNECT BY EXTREME RIGOR TO RULES & VALUES

# DEEP INTERESTS

**CROWDS ≠ HAPPINESS.**

**ALL DOPAMINE EARNED.**

**COMFORT THROUGH**

**SHARING MEANINGFUL**

**TASKS & KNOWLEDGE**

# AUTISTIC REASONING GOES FROM PART TO WHOLE

WE COLLECT DETAILS TO FIT TOGETHER IN PATTERNS

# AND

# RELIES ON CONTEXTUAL FRAMES TO MAKE MEANING

WE WANT TO KNOW \*WHY\* IN ORDER TO FIT PATTERNS INTO PLACE

**TEACH TO ATTENTION NOT BEHAVIOR**

# FEEL FIRST

**sensory input +**

**emotional input +**

**gut feelings =**

**sensory soothing, welcoming**

**environments**

# SEE SECOND

feelings influence sight +  
visual information preverbal +  
bridge =  
provide visual aids like AAC,  
visual schedules, props, lights,  
paths, sets/centers

# THINK THIRD

spoken words + reading +

need to cross brain +

reasoning only when safety &

regulation met=

support speech & discussion

with gross motor actions

# FRIENDLY FOURTH

shared attention through

coordination+

feeling included+

worthy interest=

community in the image of the

Holy Trinity

THIS ONLY HAPPENS WITH  
ACCOMMODATIONS

WE NEED TO EXERCISE GOODWILL  
ON EACH OTHER'S BEHALF TO GIVE  
EACH OTHER FREEDOM TO  
CONNECT

# FEEL FIRST

**sensory input +**

**emotional input +**

**gut feelings =**

**sensory soothing, welcoming**

**environments**



# SENSORY REGULATING WELCOMING SPACES



# AWAY SPACE WITH MINI CHAPEL

SENSORY SOOTHING  
INTERACTIVE  
CALM & RETURN





**TENTS  
MAKE GOOD  
“AWAY” SPACES  
IN THE ROOM**



**INTEGRATE TENTS INTO LESSONS  
“O LORD YOU HAVE BEEN OUR DWELLING  
PLACE FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION”**



**INCLUDE BUILDING  
AREAS TO BUILD  
SETTINGS  
OF STORIES**

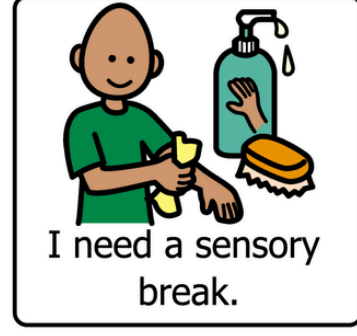


**PROPS TO INTERACT WITH TEXTS**

**LOTS OF  
SEATING AND  
POSTURE  
OPTIONS IN  
THIS ROOM**

# SEE SECOND

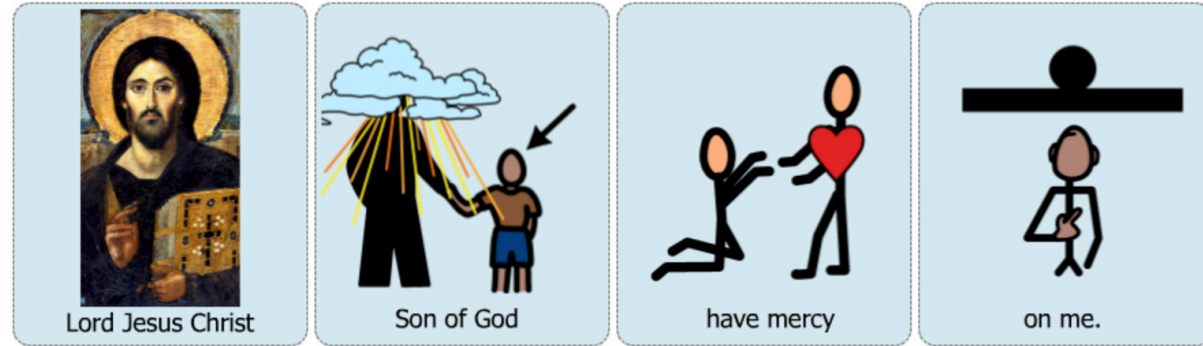
feelings influence sight +  
visual information preverbal +  
bridge =  
provide visual aids like AAC,  
visual schedules, props, lights,  
paths, sets/centers



I 	mine, my 	like 	am, are, is 	look 	on 	up 	who 
you 	that 	want 	go 	need 	in 	over 	what 
he 	this 	help 	can 	put 	more 	some 	when 
she 	don't 	do 	make 	open 	finished 	all 	where 
it 	stop 	not 	get 	turn 	different 	here 	again 

# AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION

The Jesus Prayer



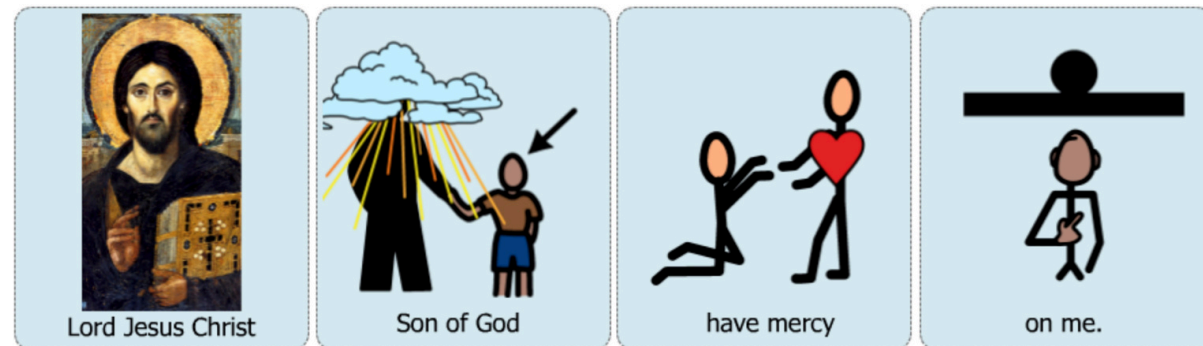
1

2

3

4

Cut out the cards below. Match them to the pictures above.



# VISUAL PRAYERS

SUMMERKINARD.COM

ORTHODOXDISABILITYTHEOLOGY.COM

Our Father

<p>Our Father</p>	<p>Who art in heaven</p>	<p>hallowed be</p>	<p>Thy name.</p>
<p>Thy Kingdom</p>	<p>come.</p>	<p>Thy will</p>	<p>be done</p>
<p>on Earth</p>	<p>as it is in heaven.</p>	<p>Give us this day our daily bread,</p>	<p>and forgive us our trespasses</p>
<p>as we forgive those who trespass against us,</p>	<p>and lead us not into temptation,</p>	<p>but deliver us from evil.</p>	<p>Amen.</p>

# Class Group Plan

- |   |  |                          |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| 1 | Take Candle & Flowers to Prayer Corner  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | Prayers Together & Songs                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Take Cross to discussion area           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Sensory Anchor show & tell              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Story Sequence                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | Skit or Sensory Anchor Lesson         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | Scriptorium or Building Time          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Go with Family                        | <input type="checkbox"/> |



**Bring mini icon to prayer corner**



**Gather around silk for shared prayers**



**Act out the story as it's told**



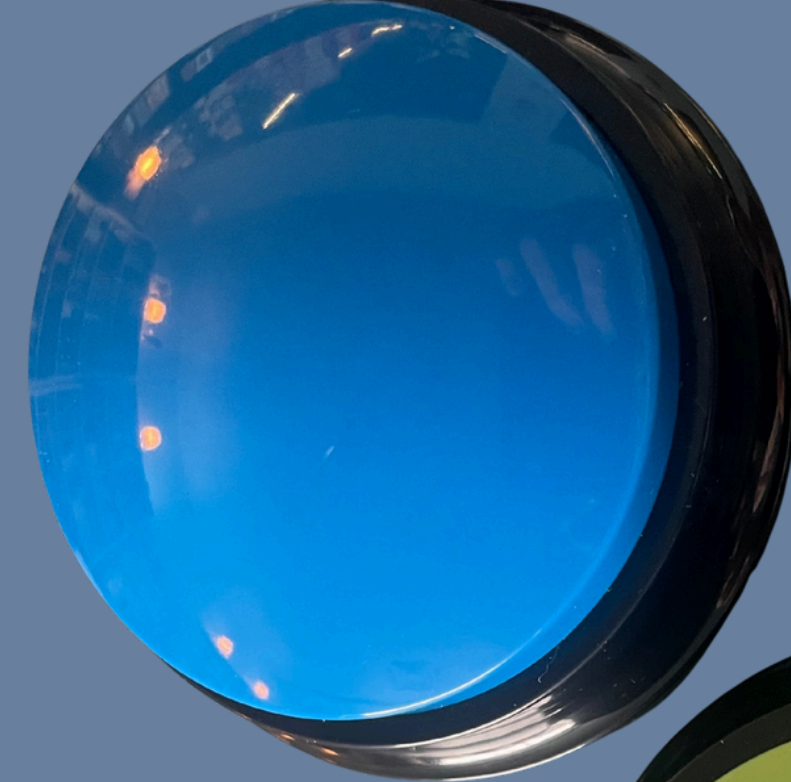
**Work on icons or play with sensory anchors**



**Be the Bee by sharing something good**



**POP LIGHTS TO  
SUPPORT FOLLOWING  
DIRECTIONS & GETTING  
ATTENTION**



**SPEECH OUTPUT  
BUTTONS TO AID  
PARTICIPATION IN  
PRAYERS AND  
LESSONS FOR ALL  
STUDENTS**

# THINK THIRD

spoken words + reading +

need to cross brain +

reasoning only when safety &

regulation met=

support speech & discussion

with gross motor actions



ACT  
IT  
OUT





**PLAYING AT THE END OF CLASS  
AFTER FINDING SENSORY ANCHOR DISKS**



**ELEMENTARY STUDENTS BUILDING THE WALLS OF  
DAMASCUS AND LOWERING SAINT PAUL PEG DOLLS DOWN  
THEM IN BASKETS.**



# ICONIC DRESS UP

**LIVING ICONOSTASIS AT HOPE & JOY**





**LARGE SCALE GROUP  
ART AROUND A  
STANDING TABLE.**









THE STAR  
The star which led the  
Magi to the infant Jesus  
is a symbol of the light  
of the world. It is the  
light of the Gospel which  
has shined upon all  
men and women since  
the birth of Christ.  
It is the light of hope  
and the light of life.  
It is the light of the  
King of Kings who  
has come to bring  
peace and good will  
to all men.

ANCI  
ADVE  
HYM

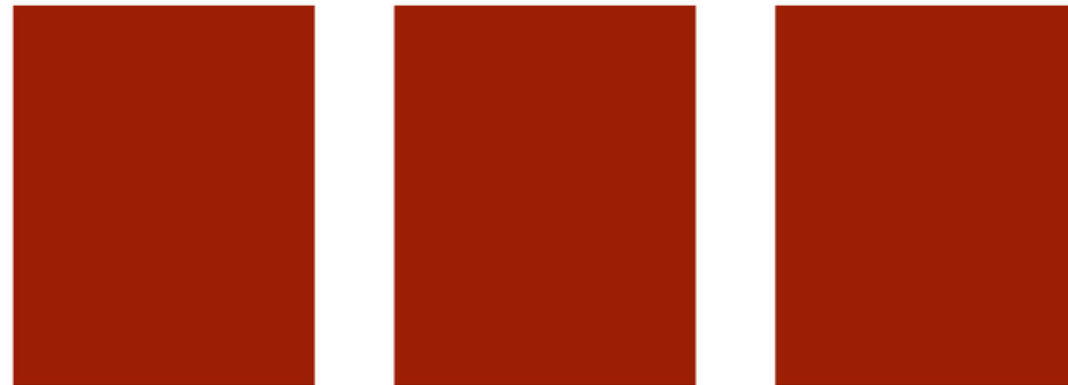
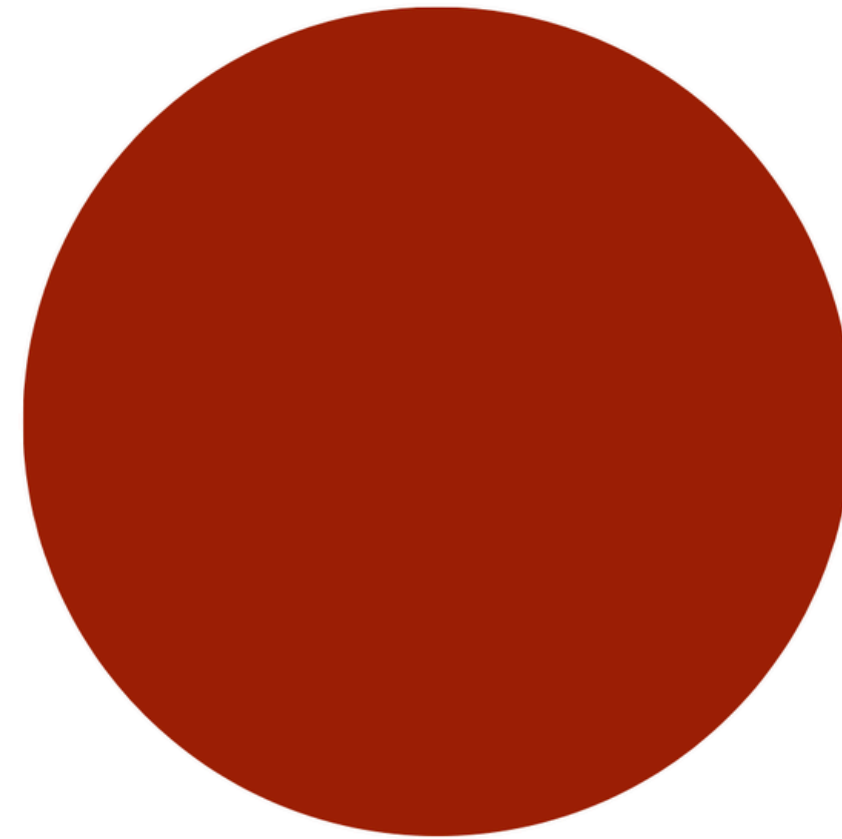
These hymns are  
known as the "O" A  
because they each  
begin with "O." Listen to  
the words of the  
Magi as they  
adore the infant  
Jesus. The words  
of the shepherds  
as they praise  
the newborn  
King. The words  
of the angels  
as they announce  
the birth of the  
Christ Child.

ADVENT  
The coming of Christ  
is the theme of  
the season of  
Advent. It is a  
time of hope and  
expectation. It is  
a time when we  
prepare our hearts  
for the birth of  
the King of Kings.  
The season of  
Advent is a time  
of joy and  
anticipation. It  
is a time when  
we look forward  
to the coming of  
the Messiah.  
The season of  
Advent is a time  
of peace and  
goodwill. It is  
a time when we  
seek to bring  
peace and  
goodwill to  
all men.



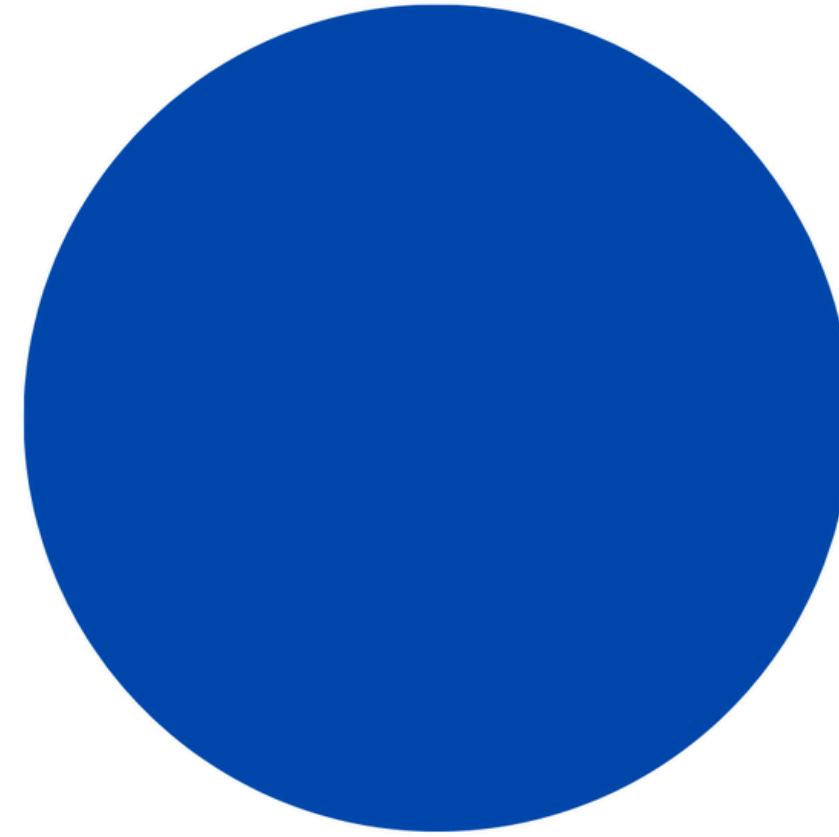


**TOGETHERNESS THROUGH ACTIONS THAT CENTER  
GOD WITH US, CHRIST**



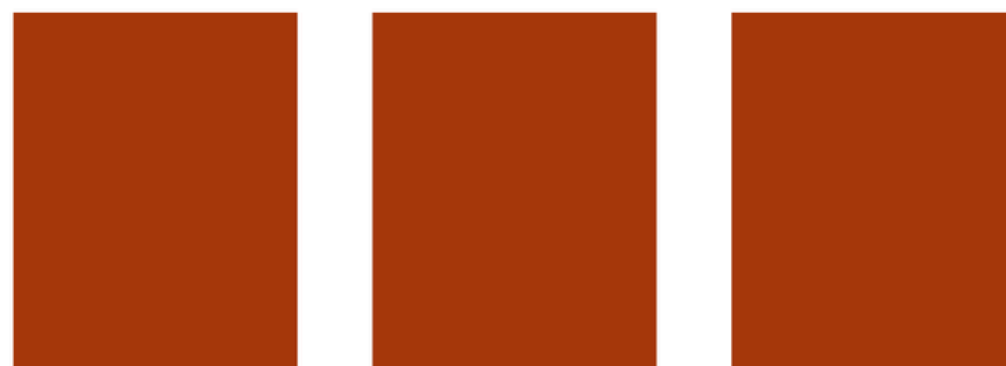
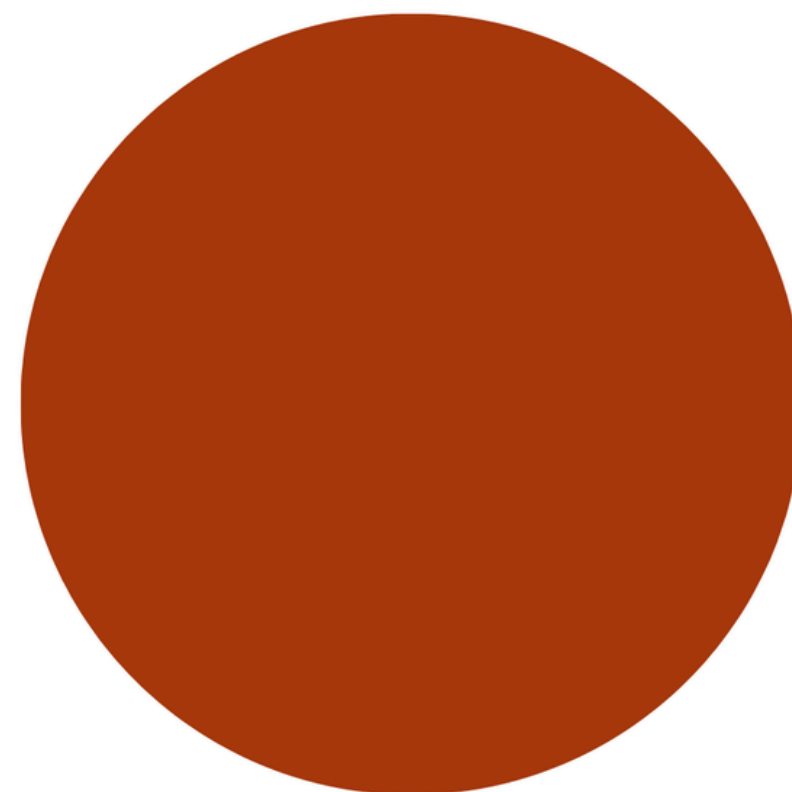
**I'm safe.**

place angel icons on the rectangles as you find them



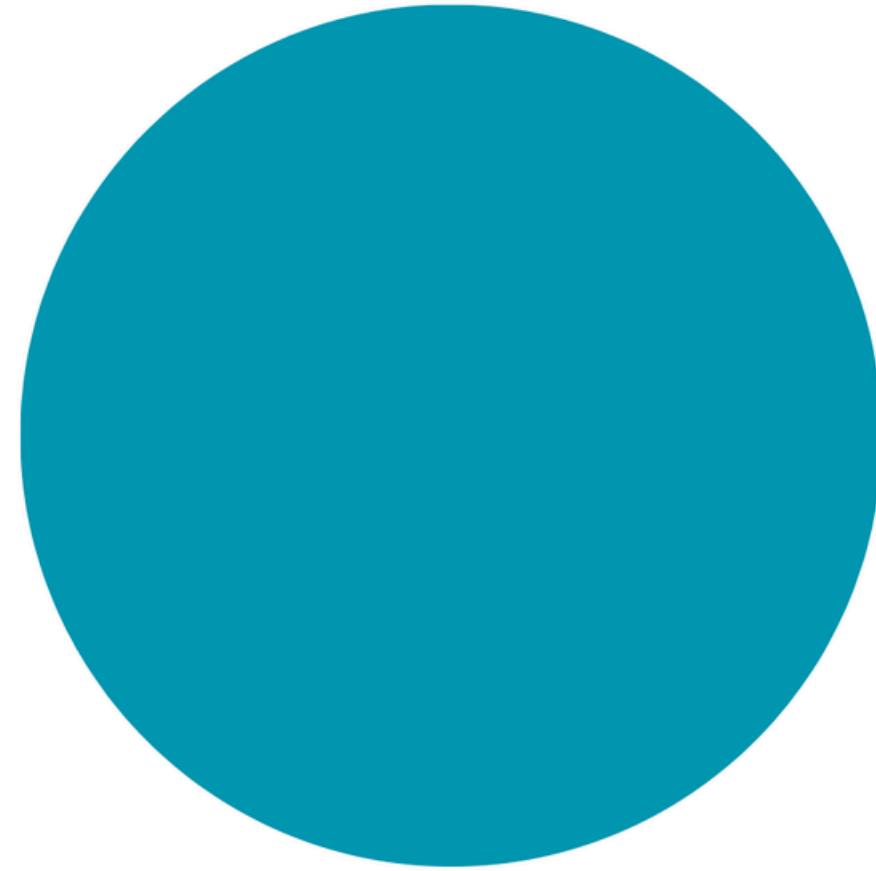
place icons on the rectangles as you find them

**I'm welcome.**



place icons on the rectangles as you find them

**I'm held  
close.**



**I'm loved.**

place icons on the rectangles as you find them