Self-Awareness for Self-Advocacy: Student Version



What is self-awareness?

Self-awareness is a critical aspect of selfadvocacy. To effectively self-advocate, we must be aware of and understand our strengths, preferences, interests, and needs or essentials.

How can self-awareness help me?

Becoming more aware of ourselves can help us understand how we relate to the situations that occur throughout the day.





VANDERBILT KENNEDY CENTER

Treatment and Research Institute for Autism Spectrum Disorders

WHAT ARE SOME THINGS I CAN DO TO FOCUS ON SELF-AWARENESS?

Listen to more people talk about self-awareness.

□ Read more about self-awareness.

Create a resource describing my strengths, preferences, interests, and needs or essentials.

□ Communicate with someone I trust about self-awareness.

□ What is something else I can do to focus on self-awareness?

Are there any tools to help me with selfawareness?

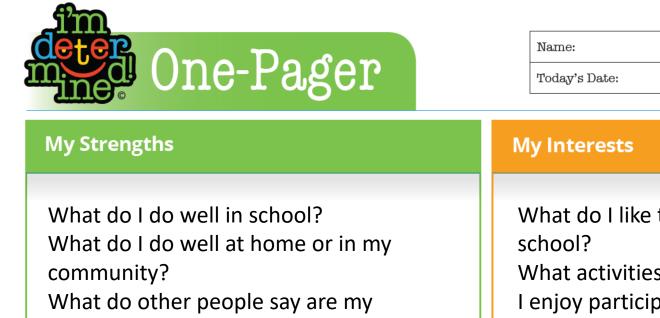
Yes, there is a simple tool to help provide important information about you. Check out the <u>One-Pager resource</u> (I'm Determined, 2018). This tool can be printed out, filled out using the template, or completed using the <u>app</u>, which works on any internet-connected device or computer. You can fill it out by typing, using talk-to-text, handwriting, and picture symbols. It can be used as a personal tool and can also be shared with people in your support system. "My ADHD and autistic brain is really good at making connections, which for the longest time, I thought was a curse. But I have come to realize it is a huge strength that has helped me meet other people and form relationships, understand what isn't working for me or others in the environment, and expand my skills across so many different areas of interest."

> ~Brian Middleton, TRIAD Advisory Committee Member

Cover photo by Adobe Stock. This resource was developed by TRIAD consultants and was made available at no cost through the Tennessee Department of Education, Tennessee Technical Assistance Network. <u>triad.vumc.org</u>

one-Pager	Name: Today's Date:
My Strengths	My Interests
My Preferences	My Needs

Resource provided by I'm Determined, a state-directed project funded by the Virginia Department of Education. © 2006–2018 I'm Determined. All rights reserved. Last updated 01/2018



What do I like to do when I'm not in school? What activities or organizations do I enjoy participating in? What are my hobbies?

My Preferences

strengths?

What works for me? What helps me be successful?

Where do I see myself in the future:

- Living?
- Working?
- Doing for fun?

My Needs

What are the accommodations that help me? How can others help me? What are some things that are difficult for me?



Name:

Today's Date:

Good Day	Now	Action	Support
What happens on a Good Day?	Does it happen now?	What needs to happen to make it a Good Day?	Who can help me?
What do I need to do to have a good day?	Am I getting what I need during the day?	What do I need to make this happen? What strategies	What people can help me have a good day?
What are my strengths?	lf yes, GREAT! Keep it up.	should I create? What goals should I set for myself?	What people do I need in order to increase the chance of good things
What makes me happy?	If not, move to next column to think of options	What do others do to make this happen?	happening? Who is my network
What things are always present on good days?	and alternatives.	Is there a reasonable alternative?	of support? Can I be the support person for this?



TAT.	- v	~
TMS	am	le:

Today's Date:



Resource provided by I'm Determined, a state-directed project funded by the Virginia Department of Education. © 2006–2018 I'm Determined. All rights reserved. Last updated 01/2018