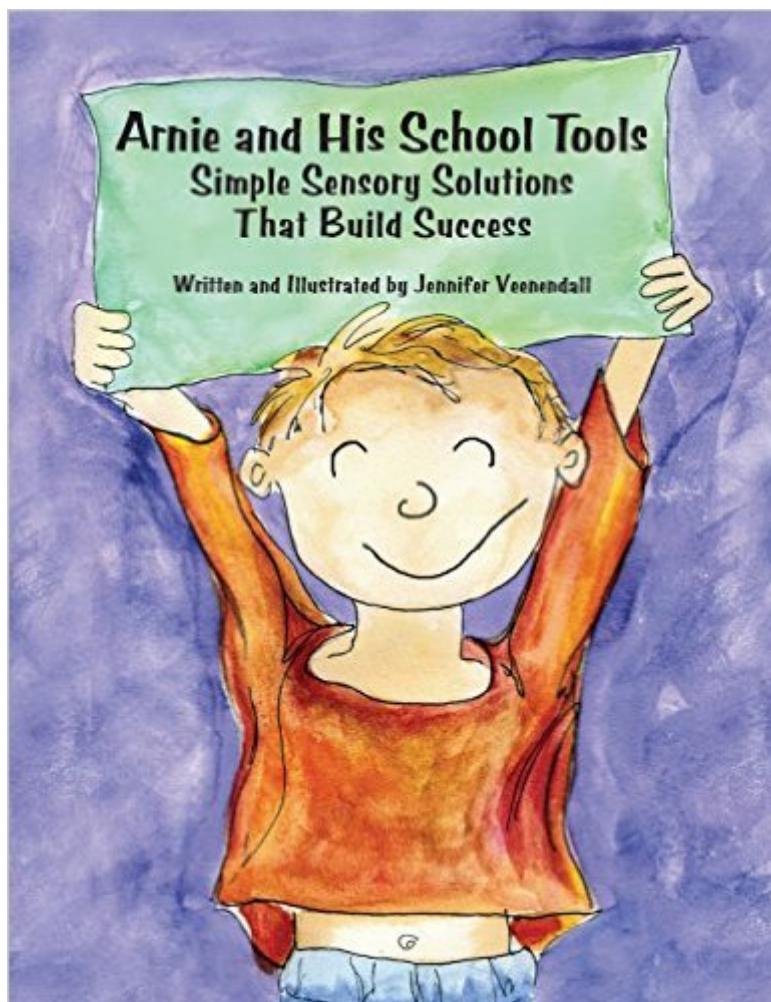


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# Arnie And His School Tools: Simple Sensory Solutions That Build Success



## **Synopsis**

Arnie and His School Tools: Simple Sensory Solutions to Build Success is an illustrated children's book about an exuberant little boy who had difficulty paying attention in class and doing his school work until he was equipped with the tools to accommodate his sensory needs. Written from Arnie's point of view, the book uses simple language to describe some of the sensory tools and strategies he uses at school and home to help him achieve a more optimal level of alertness and performance. Arnie and His School Tools creates an environment that is accepting of students with sensory modulation difficulties, including many on the autism spectrum. Occupational therapists, teachers and parents will find this book an engaging way to introduce elementary students to basic sensory tools used to help children focus in classroom settings, such as fidgets, chewy pencil toppers, and weighted vests. Additional resources are provided at the end of the book, including definitions of sensory processing and sensory modulation disorder, suggested discussion questions, and lists of related books and websites.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 47 pages

Publisher: Autism Asperger Publishing Company (January 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1934575151

ISBN-13: 978-1934575154

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.3 x 10.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (46 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #77,651 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #113 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Personal Hygiene

Age Range: 6 - 12 years

Grade Level: 1 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Written and illustrated by school-based occupational therapist Jennifer Veenendall, Arnie and His School Tools: Simple Sensory Solutions That Build Success is a children's picturebook about Arnie, a young boy with sensory modulation difficulties - that is, he's a "mover". His body needs to move, and his hands need to be busy, which makes it hard to sit still in school and pay attention to his teachers! What is a naturally restless boy to do? Fortunately, his parents and teachers instruct him

in simple helpful strategies, including fidgets, chewy pencil toppers, earplugs, headphones, ball cushions, weighted vests, and more, as well as the use of natural physical movement to help keep his body calm and enable his mind to focus. *Arnie and His School Tools* is no ordinary picturebook; it's also a useful teaching aid for occupational therapists, teachers, and parents helping elementary children understand helpful basic sensory tools. "Sometimes I jump on our mini-trampoline, and at other times I jump and crash into our couch pillows. All these things help calm my body and my mind so I can get my homework done." Suggested discussion questions, a list of resources for children and parents, and helpful websites round out this enthusiastically recommended picturebook, especially for public and elementary school libraries.

I thought this book was great except for one thing. It tells the child that they are never going to become an accountant. I feel that it is very wrong and discouraging to tell a young child that he/she can never be any certain profession. The author should remove that statement from the book. I will never recommend this book to a child with SPD because of that statement.

This is exactly the book my family needed. Reading "*Arnie and his School Tools*" to my children made them feel "normal". Giving it to the teachers to read to the class was the perfect start to improved classroom behavior. The teachers suddenly "got it", and the students who saw behaviors in themselves wanted Arnie's tools, too. The children who didn't understand why the Arnies in class needed to move suddenly became more empathetic. A very powerful experience. A book I intend to give to each of my children's teachers at the beginning of every school year.

This book was nice to read (aloud to my child who even recognized himself in some of Arnie's use of tools) until the ending which was so horrible I changed it to read differently. I would have to cut that page out of the book - why would you tell SPD children that they probably won't ever be accountants like their fathers? I think this is unacceptable and should be removed. It would horrify parents new to SPD - as we all know, children with SPD are also often highly gifted and can ACHIEVE ANYTHING THEY LIKE IN THIS WORLD. Please, change this! Stop spreading this lie and limiting children who are already quite insecure!

This book was a great help to discuss my 5 1/2 year-old son's sensory processing disorder with him. It described behaviors so similar to his own that he could really identify with it. He listened intently, and when we were done asked if he could bring it to school for his teacher to read to the

class. The teacher commented how great the book was in describing behaviors that may seem silly to other students. The kindergarten class was very receptive and asked questions of my son, who was more than happy to discuss with them.

I am a preschool teacher. This is the first year that I've had a child with sensory processing disorder in my class. I was looking for a book that would help the other kids in class understand why their classmate need help focusing. They all liked him, but they'd get very frustrated with him because he couldn't keep his hands to himself, or he'd knock over their towers, or take their playdough. While this book is more geared to early elementary school age children, it did help me put his needs into terms my students could understand. The book also went home with the student with sensory processing disorder for awhile. He really liked it, and asked his mom to read it to him again and again. It give him a new set of "tools" because it gave him some new verbage that helps him express himself. We talked about his "motor" and we even tried the straw trick! Over all I'd recommend this book, especially for early elementary children (K-4th grade).

Like other reviewers posted, I did not like the wording of one of the last pages: "I probably won't grow up to be an accountant like my dad," or something like that. I just change the words when I read it to my son & remind him he can do any job we wants to do, he just might like some jobs more than others. Otherwise, the book is great for helping my kids know we are all different and we all need different "tools" to help us during the day.

I somehow thought this would help to give a 1st person narrative to my son's teacher about his sensory issues. He has ASD along with many sensory issues, and I don't think that the "regular ed" teachers he has been exposed to; truly understand what it is like for him to be in a crowded hallway with lockers banging etc..... This book is definitely more for a younger crowd, I'd say like k-2nd grade. The interventions are VERY basic. I am also an Occupational Therapist with another child with ASD; so understand from a parental point of view as well as a professional. I would suggest having a therapist do a sensory profile and discussing results with your child's teacher as a better way of having educators understand your child's sensory issues. I also think that for explaining the issues to other children, a teacher could just as well have a discussion with the kids saying, "Michael has a different way of hearing things. What may sound like a pencil dropping to you, would sound like it was a heavy brick dropping to him." I think as far as an educational book for explaining ASD sensory issues to other kids, there are better resources available.

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Arnie and His School Tools: Simple Sensory Solutions That Build Success The Sensory Team Handbook: A hands-on tool to help young people make sense of their senses and take charge of their sensory processing Raising a Sensory Smart Child: The Definitive Handbook for Helping Your Child with Sensory Processing Issues, Revised Edition Funny (but true) Golf Anecdotes: about Tiger, Phil, Bubba, Rory, Rickie, Jack, Arnie, and all the rest. "And then Arnie told Chi Chi...": A Collection of the Greatest True Golf Stories of All Time Opening a Boutique Guide: A Simple Guide to Boutique Success Part II (How to Open a Boutique: The Simple Guide to Boutique Success Volume 2) Sensory Deprivation: A Symposium Held at Harvard Medical School Sales: A Beginners Guide to Master Simple Sales Techniques and Increase Sales (sales, best tips, sales tools, sales strategy, close the deal, business ... sales techniques, sales tools Book 1) Build Your Dream Body: Breaking the Lies and Myths of the Fitness Industry so You Can Build Lean, Hard Muscle and Shred Fat Using Simple and Proven Techniques That Get Results Wayside School Boxed Set: Wayside School Gets a Little Stranger, Wayside School is Falling Down, Sideway Stories from Wayside School My Traitor's Heart: A South African Exile Returns to Face His Country, His Tribe, and His Conscience Microsoft SharePoint 2013 Designing and Architecting Solutions: Designing and Architecting Solutions Genghis Khan: His Conquests, His Empire, His Legacy Jerome Robbins: His Life, His Theater, His Dance Java for the Web with Servlets, JSP, and EJB: A Developer's Guide to J2EE Solutions: A Developer's Guide to Scalable Solutions 101 Games and Activities for Children With Autism, Asperger's and Sensory Processing Disorders AutoLISP to Visual LISP: Design Solutions: Design Solutions for AutoCAD 2000 (Autodesk's Programmer Series) Exam Ref 70-331 Core Solutions of Microsoft SharePoint Server 2013 (MCSE): Core Solutions of Microsoft SharePoint Server 2013 The Taste Culture Reader: Experiencing Food and Drink (Sensory Formations) The Out-of-Sync Child Grows Up: Coping with Sensory Processing Disorder in the Adolescent and Young Adult Years

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