

Autism Society Inland Empire

Serving Our Community in a COVID World

 **AUTISM SOCIETY**
Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism
Inland Empire

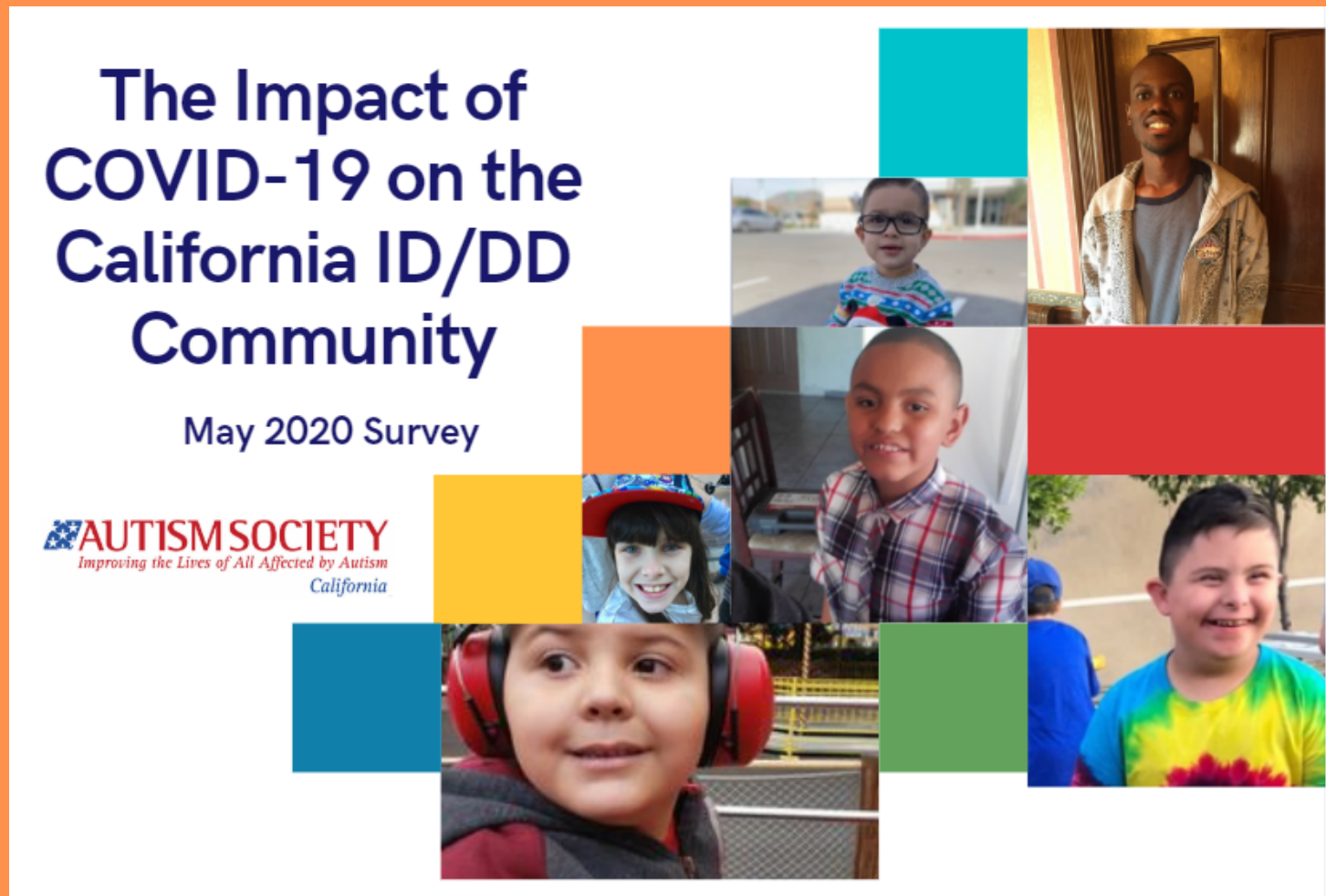


ABOUT THE AUTISM SOCIETY INLAND EMPIRE



- Serve most of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties
- Serve primarily individuals and families who have a loved one with autism, but include all disabilities
- Serve all ages, all abilities, family members, and professionals
- Regional and non-Regional families
- Low cost or free
- 2 full-time and 5 part-time staff
- Last year we served over 12,000 individuals through family services, education, and resource support services.

ASKED THE COMMUNITY WHAT THEY WANTED



www.autismsocietyca.org/2020survey.html

- Surveyed 5x March – Sept 2020
- Talked with families who use and don't use our services
- Focus Groups



www.ieautism.org/covid_data

HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS



People with Autism/IDD are 4x more like to contract COVID and 2.5 times more likely to die of COVID

- 32% can not practice concept of social distancing
- 26% of the population can not tolerate wearing a mask at all
- 11% can not wash their hands frequently

14-22% of our autism/developmental disability community reported the do not benefit from teleservices.

Intellectual and developmental disability and COVID-19 case-fatality trends: TriNetX analysis. July 2020. www.npr.org/2020/06/09/872401607/covid-19-infections-and-deaths-are-higher-among-those-with-intellectual-disabili

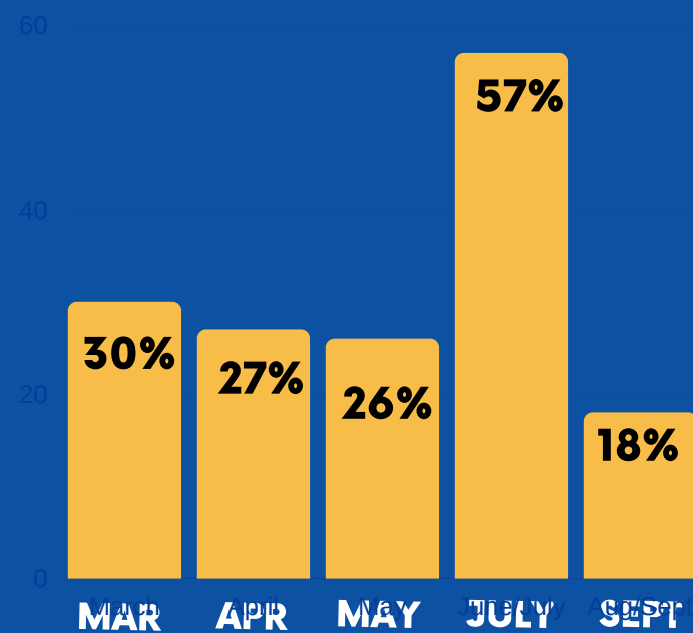
Autism Society of California May 2020 Survey, Inland Empire population, 279 participants



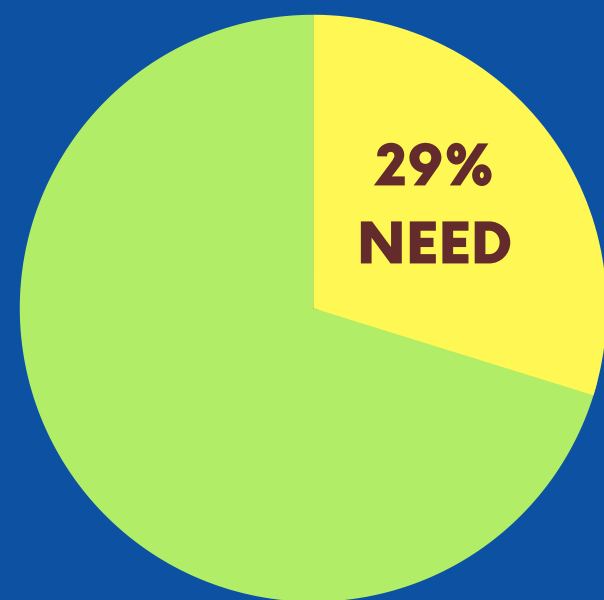
Top Needs of our Community



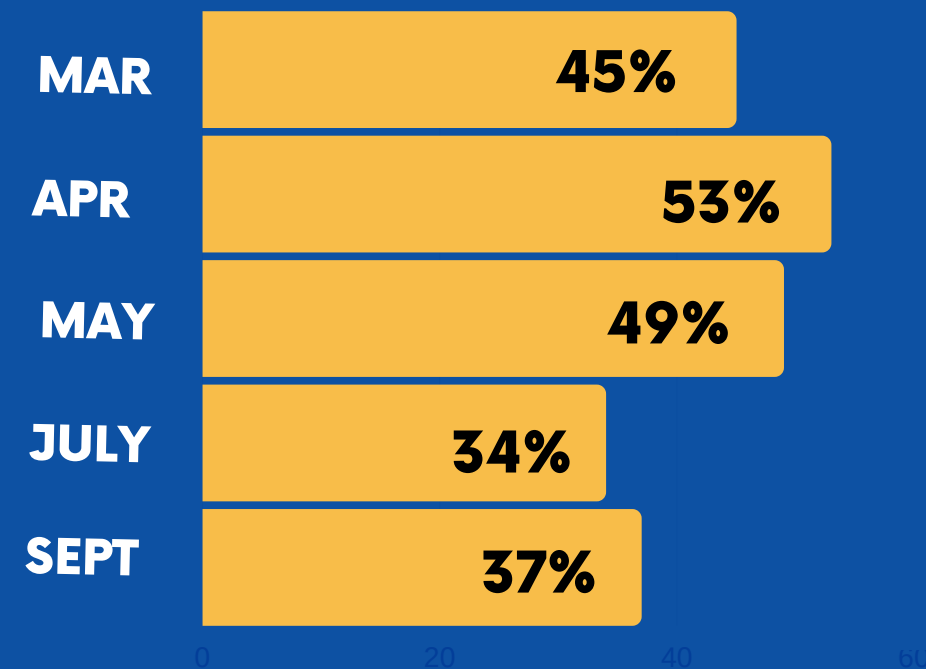
Food Distribution



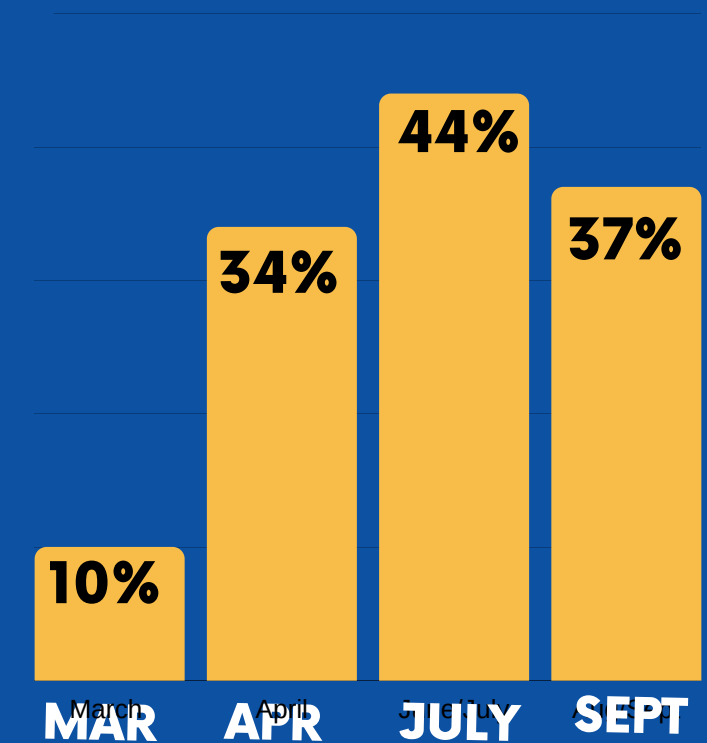
Need PPE



Educational Support



Social Emotional Support



BASIC NEEDS

AUTISM SOCIETY INLAND EMPIRE

We have provided over \$35,000 in food to more than 150 local families in need during the COVID-19 pandemic.

support. empower. include.
since 1986



AUTISM SOCIETY
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Inland Empire*

MASK UP EVENTS

Protect Yourself &
Our Community

Thanks to our community partners-
together, we have distributed over
225,000 to the Inland
Empire Disability
Community

DDS Department of
Developmental
Services



AUTISM SOCIETY INLAND EMPIRE COVID-19 RESPONSE

We have produced 20+
COVID-19 related
webinars that over
10,000 people
have viewed



SUPPORT

Resource Specialists

Virtual Support Groups

Advocate

Social Media



Social Interaction for All Ages



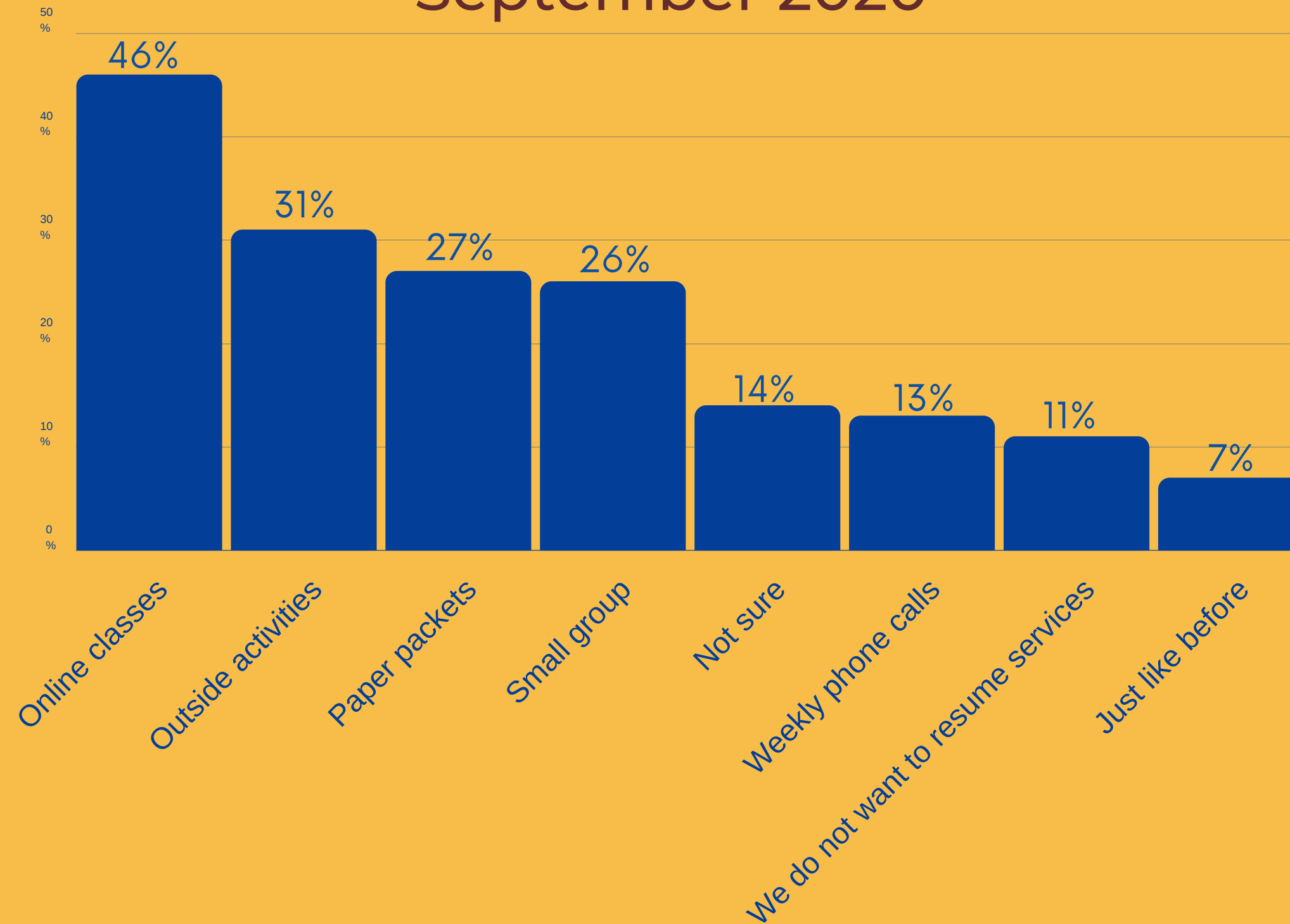
Currently running 35 events, 25 hours a month. Held 10 events in Feb

- Anime Club - 1 hour every other week
- Art Class - 45 min weekly
- Bedtime Stories - 15 min weekly
- Fun Fridays - 30 min weekly
- Movie Club - 1 hour every other week
- Murrieta Teen/Adult Group - 45 min every other month
- Rancho Adult Group - 1 hour twice a month
- Role Playing Club (Dungeons & Dragons) - 1 hour weekly
- Sensory Friendly Teen/Adult Social Club - 1 hour weekly
- Talk to Me Tuesdays - 1 hour weekly
- Parents of Adults Support Group - 1 hour twice a month



Service Delivery Method Requested by Individuals who use Adult Regional Center Service

September 2020



Aug/Sept 2020 Inland Empire Survey, 70 participants.



Fun Friday's

- 30 minutes on a Friday
- Contract with
Pure Imagination Party Company



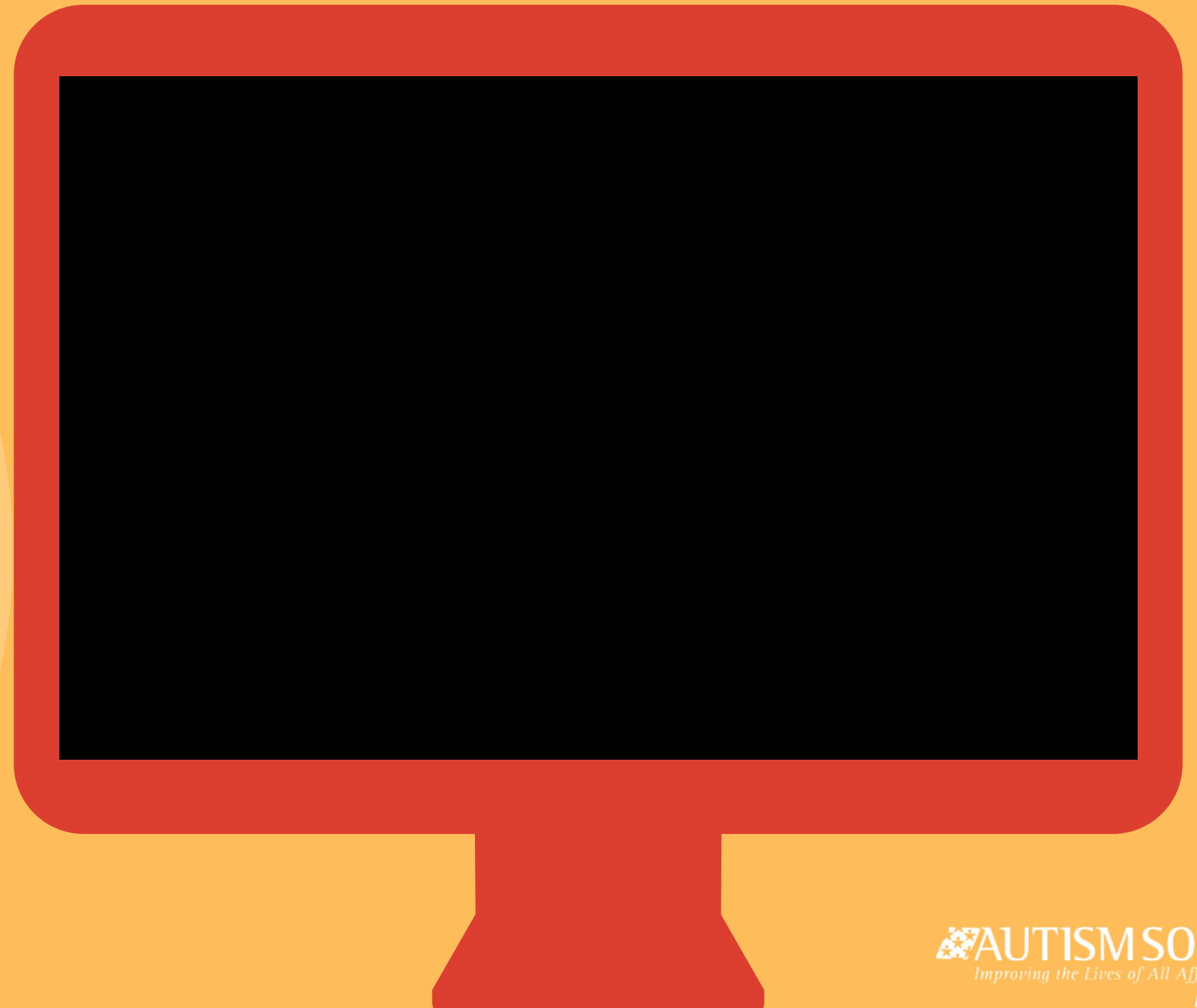
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Fun Friday's



Anime and Movie Clubs

- Run by a person on the spectrum
- Similar to a book club model
- Assigned to watch and will discuss



Bed Time Stories

I like to hear the story read by the author of the book and how they use different voices when they are reading to me. When I go to sleep I dream about the storybook. - Joshua



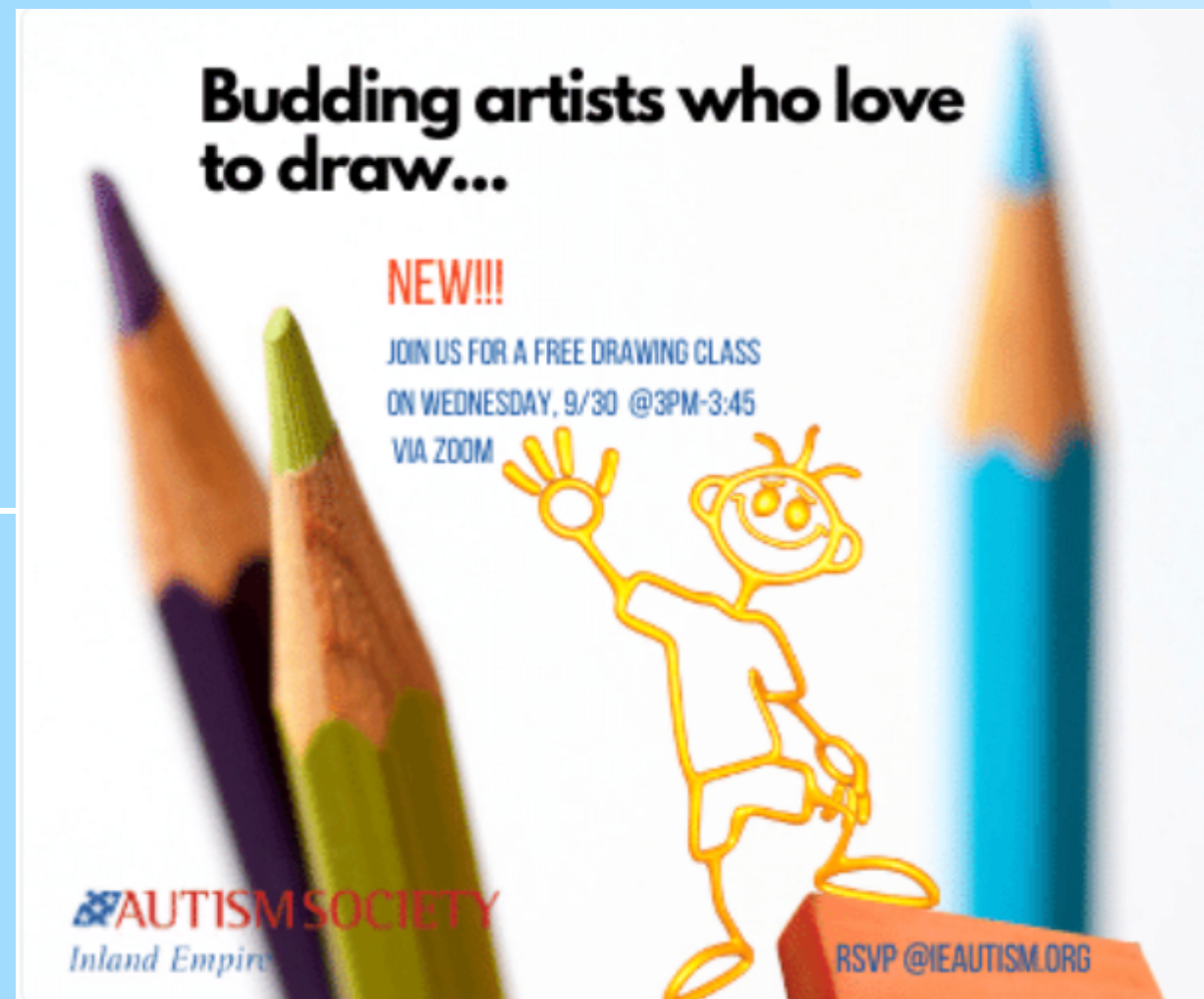
Bedtime Stories is a great addition to Maya's nightly routine. Reading makes her relax for a better night. - Maria

Partnered with Familius Publishing



Art Class

- High school student volunteers her time



Artist: Dillon

Teen/Adult Groups



"Adult Group is a fun organization, and it's helped me keep in touch with many of my friends via Zoom during COVID-19. It's also helped me keep a sense of responsibility in my own way, like staying on track for certain events."

- Connor



In Person Events



FREE

but MUST RSVP
@IEAutism.org/
events

AUTISM SOCIETY
Inland Empire

IE♥HP
A Public Entity
Inland Empire Health Plan

DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, Oct 23rd | Gates open 6:30 pm | Movie starts 7pm
San Manuel Stadium- 66er's Parking Lot
280 S "E" St, San Bernardino, CA

Limited to 70 cars.
Autism Society Inland Empire
will provide a "treat" bucket
to every car.

- COVID SAFETY IS A PRIORITY-
- If you are out of your car, you must wear a mask.
- Cars will be spaced every other parking space.
- The snack bar and bathroom will be open.
- Volunteers will be enforcing mask and social distancing.

MORE IDEAS FOR SOCIAL INTERACTION

SKILLS

ACTING
ART CLASSES
CRAFTS
COOKING
INTERNET SAFETY
MINDFULNESS
MUSIC
SOCIAL SKILLS
VOICE ACTING

EXERCISE

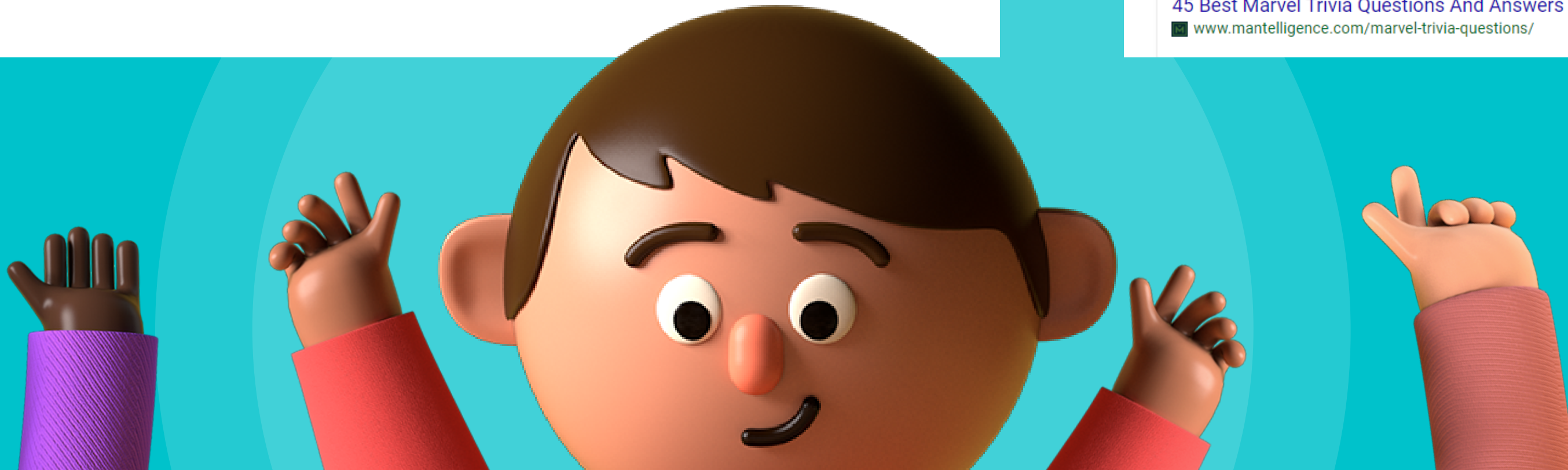
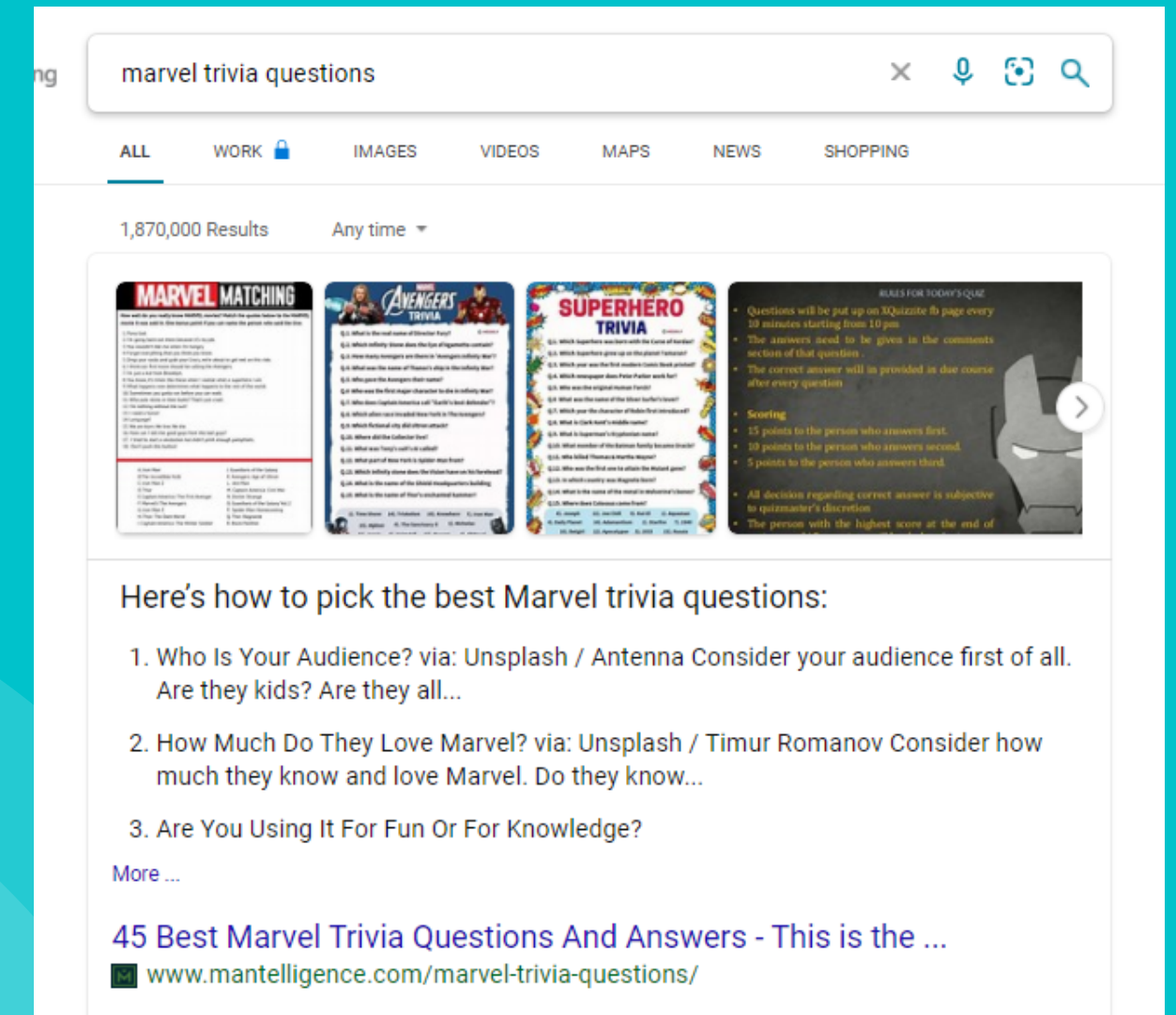
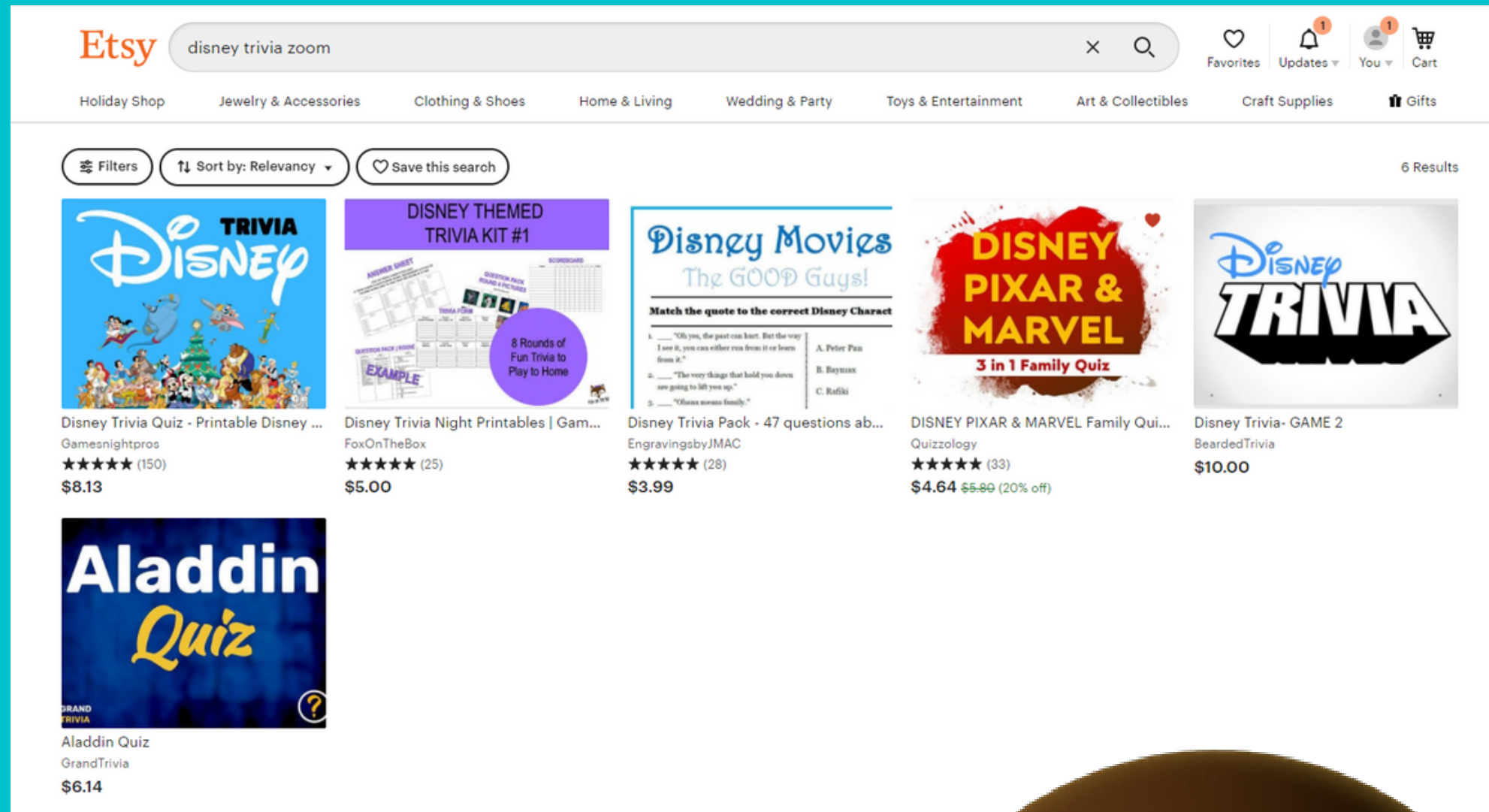
CROSSFIT
DANCE
GYMNASTICS
KARATE
TAI CHI
YOGA
ZUMBA

FUN

ANIMAL SHOWS
ANIME CLUB
CHARADES
BINGO
DANCE PARTY
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
ESCAPE ROOM
GAME NIGHT
HOLIDAY PARTIES
LEGO CLUB
KAHOOT.COM
KARAOKE
MAGIC SHOWS
MOVIE CLUB
PICTIONARY
SHOW & TELL
SING-A-LONG
STORY TIME
NETFLIX PARTIES
TALENT SHOW
TRIVIA
TWO TRUTHS & A LIE



Ask and vote. Google & Etsy for Inspiration. Use themes.



LESSONS LEARNED

- Entertainment + interaction
- Opportunities to have frequent conversations around what our community wants, the reality of COVID, and how we are adapting.
- Need for lots of advertising and reminders.
- Not ready for heavy thinking



TECHNOLOGY TIPS



1. Frontload and reminders about the Zoom expectations you expect:
 - "We will mute during the story, but afterwards you will have time to talk."
 - "Raise your hand and we will call on you."
2. At least one staff/volunteer for tech and a facilitator for meeting with over 9 people.
3. Learn to use polls, screen share, whiteboard and chat features for more fun.
4. People are forgiving when technology doesn't work.

support
empower
Include



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Clara Garcia, Director of Programs



@AutismSocietyInlandEmpire

