

Easy Read Fact Sheet

- **National Framework**
- **For assessing children's functional strengths**
- **and support needs in Australia**

December 2024



Easy Read

How to use this fact sheet



Autism CRC wrote this fact sheet.

When you see the word 'we' it means Autism CRC.



We wrote this fact sheet in a way that is easy to read.

We use pictures to help explain some ideas.



This fact sheet tells you about some work we did.

You can find out more about it on our website at autismcrc.com.au/strengths-and-supports



You can ask for help to read this fact sheet.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

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What is the Framework?

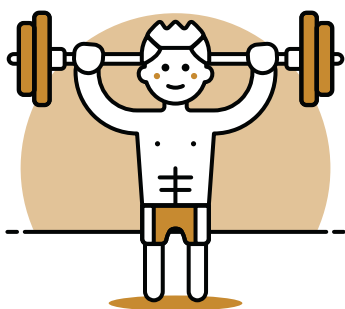


Autism CRC has made a **framework** for the people who work with children and families.



- A framework is a set of rules that help different people do something in the same way.

We call it the Framework.



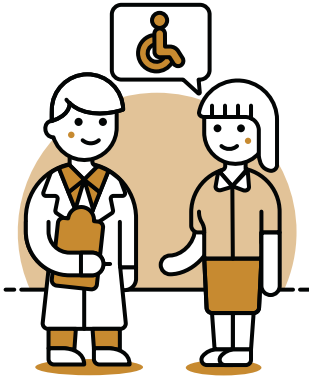
The Framework tells people the best way to learn about children's **strengths** and **support needs**.



- Strengths are things that children are good at, like being helpful or playing sport.
- Support needs are the things children need help with.



The Framework helps people to know which support needs are the most important to the child and family.



The Framework also tells people the best way to share this information with other people.

Who the Framework is for



The Framework was made to help all children aged 0 to 12 years old.

This includes children without a diagnosed condition.



The Framework can be used by people like doctors or teachers to help them

- understand what children are good at
- understand what children need help with
- understand how best to tell other people.



The Framework can also be used by the government and organisations who help the people that work with children and families.

What we did

6

To make the Framework we did 6 things.

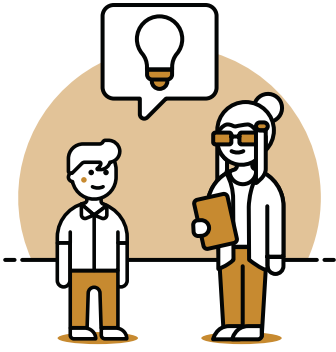


1. We asked some people from community, health, education and disability organisations to help us. We call them a **reference group**.

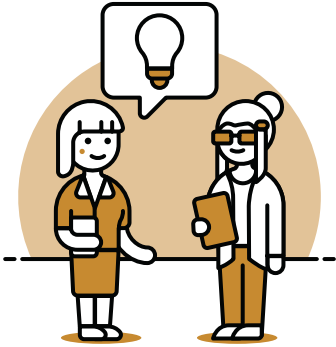
- The reference group helped us to work out what was important to put in the Framework.



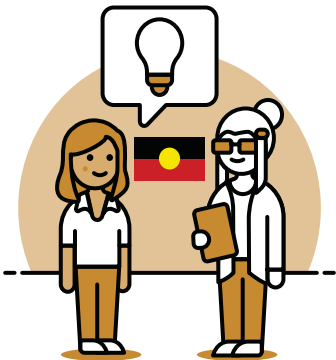
- The reference group also helped us to make sure that the Framework will help all children and families.



2. We asked children, young people, adults and other organisations in the community what they thought.



3. We asked people who work with children and families what they thought.



4. We listened to the stories that First Nations families and communities told us.



5. We talked to people from Canada who know a lot about the best way to learn about children's strengths and support needs.



6. We looked at what **research** had been done and what frameworks are used in other countries.



- Research is when people do work to find things out and to understand what things mean.

What is in the Framework

4

The Framework has 4 parts.



1. What is important to think about when working with children and families.



2. The best ways to learn about what children are good at and what they need help with to live a good life.



3. How to work out what is most important for each child and their family.



4. How to share what is learnt with other people in ways they can understand.



The Framework tells people who work with children and families what they need to know so they can do their job well.



The Framework also tells people how to work in ways that are safe for children and families.

Word list

Framework

A framework is a set of rules that help different people do something in the same way.

Strengths

Strengths are things that children are good at, like being helpful or playing sport.

Support needs

Support needs are things children need help with.

Reference group

A reference group is a group of people who come together to say what they think is important for a project.

Research

Research is when people do work to find things out and to understand what things mean.