

SPOTTED

Spotted around the web: Coronavirus, genetic mutations, obsessive-compulsive disorder

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WEEK OF MARCH 16TH

Research roundup

- Preventing cell death during brain development in fruit flies allows diverse neuronal circuits to form. [Science Advances](#)
- The most widely used autism screen is as reliable for black children as it is for white children. [Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders](#)
- Children whose autism is a result of copy number variants in their DNA tend to have severe traits. [International Journal of Developmental Neuroscience](#)
- Ethnic and racial minorities cite fear and distrust as reasons they do not participate in clinical research. [Trials](#)
- Strategies to increase employment for autistic people include providing early work experience, highlighting strengths and overcoming stigma. [Autism Research](#)
- People are mostly willing to share their genetic information, especially if they are compensated and have control over any reuse. [PLOS ONE](#)
- When faced with a frustrating task, autistic children may react with emotional outbursts; these tend to be bigger and last longer in those with minimal verbal and life skills. [Autism](#)

Science and society

- Coronavirus has prevented people from visiting their autistic family members who live in residential treatment facilities. [Jewish Telegraphic Agency](#)
- Design hacks to make homes sensory friendly for autistic children need not be expensive or complicated. [The New York Times](#)
- The television show “Everything’s Gonna Be Okay,” available on the streaming platform

- Freeform, features LGBTQ characters who have autism. *The Advocate*
- An autistic teenager shares her experiences and debunks misconceptions in short explainers on the video app TikTok. *Yahoo Lifestyle*
 - Autistic author Charlotte Amelia Poe says embracing her otherness was key to moving forward in her life. *The Guardian*
 - Because of the coronavirus, telehealth services may be expanded for people insured by Medicare, the national health plan for older people in the United States. *STAT*

Autism and the arts

- A Colorado orchestra and ballet company has won funding to create works that are appropriate for children who have autism or sensory sensitivities. *The Gazette*
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