Competencies
K1 Understand the range of behavioral characteristics of students with ASD in the social, communication, and activity domains and the implications of various learning styles unique to students with ASD.
K2 Understand the meaning and implications of the terms: visual learner, concrete versus abstract learner; stress and anxiety issues; sensory differences and issues; social-communication issues; idiosyncratic behaviors and issues; direct teaching versus incidental learning.
K3 Understand the importance of building multiple relationships among the students, their peers, and other adults in various settings so the students' independence is supported.

Related Issues for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Read the scenario and then answer the questions that follow.

Scenario
Ryan is a 10 year old boy with ASD. Today, he and his classmates are joining the rest of the school in the gymnasium for a special musical performance. However, when Ryan’s class arrives at the gym, Ryan attempts to run back to his classroom. His teacher grabs his hand and tells him that he needs to stay with the group. At this point, Ryan drops to the floor, closes his eyes, and begins to slap the side of his head.

Questions
Based on what you learned in this lesson, answer the following questions about this scenario.

1. What may Ryan have been communicating when he ran from the gym?
2. Considering the gym environment in this scenario, what specific sensory issues might pose a problem for a person with ASD?

3. In what ways might have the teacher’s reaction to Ryan’s attempt at running escalated the situation?

4. What could the teacher have done to prevent the outcome of this scenario?