

## ***The Girl Who Thought in Pictures: The Story of Dr. Temple Grandin***

Written by Julia Finley Mosca; illustrated by Daniel Rieley

This book shares the story of Dr. Temple Grandin, a scientist who received a diagnosis of autism at an early age. As a determined visual thinker, Dr. Grandin was able to overcome obstacles, invent things to improve farms around the world, and teach others new ways to support children who have unique minds too!

This book is part of the Amazing Scientists book collection, teaching children about the lives of scientists and using illustrations and rhyming for engagement. Each book consists of a complete biography, a colorful timeline, fun facts, and a personal note from the highlighted scientist.

### **Possible Strategies for Instruction**

#### **Comprehension**

- Set purpose for reading: This book highlights the importance of honoring humans, including their unique differences that could impact our world in a positive way.
  - March: Women’s History Month; National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
    - March 8: International Women’s Day
  - April: Autism Acceptance Month; Celebrate Diversity Month
    - April 2: World Autism Awareness Day
  - July 26: Disability Independence Day
  - October: National Disability Employment Awareness Month; Global Diversity Awareness Month
  - December 3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- Infer and support with evidence: When reading, we figure out what the author is saying even though it might not be explicit. In this text, readers could use their background knowledge, clues from the text, illustrations, and the dramatic text structures to support guesses about the meaning of the text.
  - “What clues do the pictures give us about what is happening?”
  - “What kind of clues did you use: pictures, words, or background knowledge?”

#### **Fluency**

- Adjust and apply different reading rates to match text: Students read most materials at their own consistent rate. They also know when and how to use different speeds based on the types of texts and their purpose for reading.
  - This book uses rhyming verses throughout the text, which affects the flow of the story. Once students have had an opportunity to get comfortable with the text, it could be used to practice various reading rates. Personally, I would add music and either sing or rap the verses while reading.

#### **Expand Vocabulary**

- Use prior knowledge and context clues: As readers, we use clues and information to determine the meaning of the words.

- Use pictures, illustrations, and diagrams: Readers increase their vocabularies by paying attention to pictures, illustrations, and diagrams. Together we use the context of the story, our background knowledge about what we are reading, and the art to discern the meaning of the words and text.
  - A few words from the text to consider: *unique; unusual; frustration; tantrum; shriek; proclaimed; balked; autism; ranch; herds; soar; invention; cattle; creatures.*

#### Additional Resources

- [Women You Should Know](#)
- [Dr. Temple Grandin's website](#)
- [Dr. Temple Grandin's TED Talk: "The World Needs All Kinds of Minds"](#)
- [HBO Original Movie: \*Temple Grandin\*](#)
- [Amazing Scientists series](#)