

Famous People with SEND

Student Activity (SEND)



One billion people around the world live with some form of disability, 14.1 million of those people are living in the UK.

You yourself may identify with having an additional need, you may know someone that has an additional need, or you even may live with someone that has an additional need, but did you know that some of the celebrities you may see on the TV or hear on the radio or even read about in books also have an additional need?

Over the next few pages, we will highlight some of the most famous people that have lived with or are living with some form of disability yet have still gone on to have a great career.

We hope that some of these amazing people will inspire you to achieve your own career aspirations.

Follow the activity below, answering the questions as you go.

You may need a little extra help from your fellow students, teachers or even the computer.

Use the free text boxes below the questions to write down your answers.



LMI FACT

Did you know...

in 2020 roughly 58% of Worcestershire's disabled people aged 16 to 64 were in employment?



Activity 1

In this section we will research and explore a number of different celebrities.

All the famous people featured over the next few pages have overcome a variety of challenges to establish extremely successful careers.

Please review the information about each one of our celebrities and then answer the questions about each one.

Feel free to undertake some of your own research using the internet to find out more about them.



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1

Steven Hawking

A theoretical physicist,
astrophysicist, cosmologist,
and eminent scientist

SEND:

Stephen Hawking was **diagnosed with ALS** (Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) at age 21 and was only given 2 more years to live.

He actually lived until he was 76 years old.

He had **been paralysed from head to toe for over thirty years** and used a voice synthesiser to be able to communicate, and a wheelchair that he operated through slight movements of the head and eyes.

None of this prevented him from developing his activity as an **exemplary researcher and professor**. His work became so famous it gave him the platform to make his illness known to the world.

Becoming one of the most recognisable celebrities of our time, his story was taken to the cinema in the film "The Theory of Everything".



Steven Hawking



QUESTIONS: Celebrity Number 1



Why do you think that Steven Hawking overcame his disability to achieve great things?

What technology did Steven Hawking use which helped him in his work?

2



Stevie Wonder

An American singer, songwriter, musician, and record producer.

SEND: Blind

He was born six weeks premature which, along with the oxygen-rich atmosphere in the hospital incubator, resulted in retinopathy of prematurity, a condition in which the growth of the eyes is aborted and causes the retinas to detach, causing him to become blind.

Stevie Wonder has sold over 100 million records worldwide, making him one of the best-selling music artists of all time.

He has won **22 Grammy Awards**. He was the first Motown artist and second African American musician to win an **Academy Award** for Best Original Song, for the 1984 film *The Woman in Red*.

Stevie Wonder



QUESTIONS: Celebrity Number 2



How do you think Stevie Wonder became such a great musician even though he couldn't see?

What challenges do you think Stevie Wonder faced in order to be successful?

3



Satoshi Tajiri

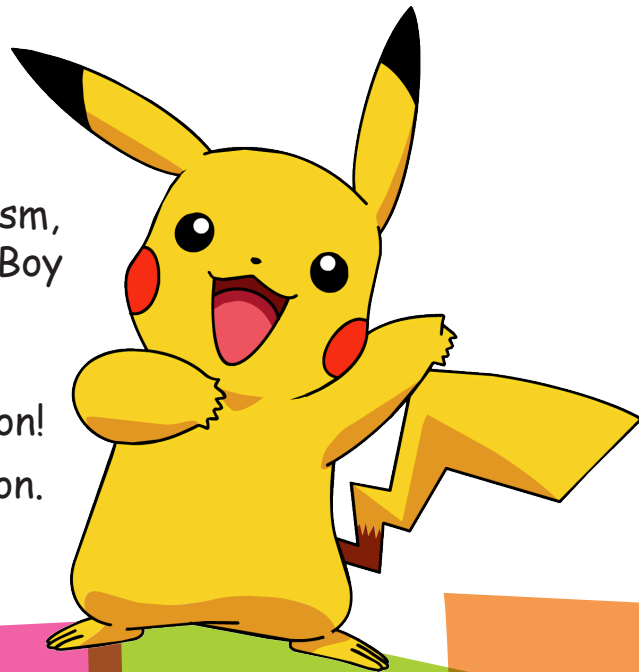
Pokémon Inventor

SEND: Asperger's Syndrome

Satoshi Tajiri may not be the most famous name on our list, but there's no doubt that you will have heard of his creation.

Diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome and Autism, Tajiri grew up with a love of Nintendo's Game Boy and a passion for insect collecting.

He later went on to combine the two into an innovative new Game Boy release called Pokémon! Pokémon is now reported to be worth \$15 billion.



Satoshi Tajiri



QUESTIONS: Celebrity Number 3



What skills do you think that Satoshi Tajiri needed to become successful throughout his career?

What were the benefits of Satoshi creating a product he was clearly passionate about?

4

Rosie Jones

Comedian and screen play writer

SEND: Ataxic cerebral Palsy



Rosie was born with Ataxic cerebral palsy; she grew up feeling that a label defined her and that she wouldn't amount to much.

After starting a career in research, Rosie took the leap to become a comic, even though she thought her disabilities, especially her slow speech would be a barrier.

Rosie now has written screen plays, is an accomplished stand-up comedian and appears on many well-known comedies shows such as the "Last Leg" and has appeared in the bit TV drama Silent Witness.

Rosie Jones



QUESTIONS: Celebrity Number 4



Do you think Rosie is a good role model
by encouraging disabled people to follow their dreams? Tell us why.

What do you think Rosie learnt about herself
when she worked as a researcher for channel 4?

5



Justin Timberlake

Singer, song writer,
producer, and actor

SEND: ADHD and OCD

Justin formally known for being a part of the Band NSYNC and then a very successful solo artist.

Throughout his solo career, Timberlake has sold over 32 million albums and 56 million singles globally, and a further 70 million records with NSYNC, making him one of the world's best-selling music artists.

Over his career Timberlake has won ten Grammy Awards, four Emmy Awards, seven American Music Awards, three Brit Awards, nine Billboard Music Awards and eleven MTV Video Music Awards.

Throughout his life Justin has lived with ADHD and ACD both affecting him in many ways through everything he has done.

Justin Timberlake



QUESTIONS: Celebrity Number 5



Do do you think that having an unseen disability made it more difficult for Justin to build his career?

How do you think the people that worked with Justin could help him in the workplace?

6

Warwick Davis

Actor



SEND:

Davis was born with spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia congenita, a rare form of dwarfism.

Warwick Davis has Appeared in: Star Wars/ Harry Potter/ Extras/ The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy/ The Chronicles of Narnia and much more.

When Davis was 11, his grandmother heard a radio advertisement calling for people who were 4 feet (120 cm) tall or shorter to be in Return of the Jedi.

To Davis, who was a fan of the Star Wars films, it was a dream come true.

During the filming of Return of the Jedi, Mark Hamill bought Davis every Star Wars action figure he did not have.

Warwick has had a very successful acting career and continues to do so.

Warwick Davis



QUESTIONS: Celebrity Number 6



Do you think that Warwick's disability has actually helped him in his career? Explain how.

How do you think Warwick's success may have inspired others to achieve their own career goals?

7

Daniel Radcliffe

Actor

SEND: Dyspraxia



Best known for starring in Harry Potter, Daniel Radcliffe was diagnosed with Dyspraxia as a child, however this didn't hold him back and he has overcome many challenges during his career.

"Do not let it stop you," he said. "It has never held me back, and some of the smartest people I know are people who have learning disabilities. The fact that some things are more of a struggle will only make you more determined, harder working and more imaginative in the solutions you find to problems."

Daniel is estimated to be worth £94 million and continues to act in blockbuster films.

Daniel Radcliffe



QUESTIONS: Celebrity Number 7



Why do you believe Daniel has not let his learning difficulty stop him from being so successful?

Which people do you think may have helped support Daniel during his journey so far?

8

Albert Einstein

Scientist and Mathematician

SEND: ASD - Autism Spectrum Disorder

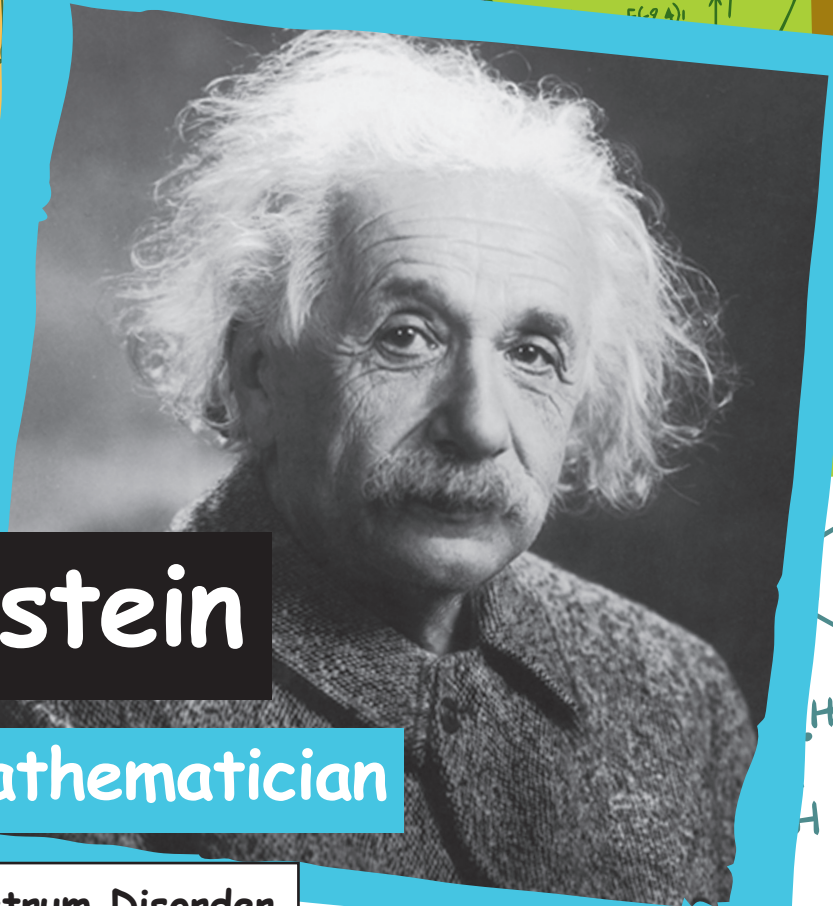
Not everyone knows that Einstein met many of the criteria for autism.

He didn't speak until he was three years old.

He liked set routines and 'sameness' and did not like being around other people.

This led many professionals to believe that Einstein would have been diagnosed as having ASD had he been tested in his lifetime.

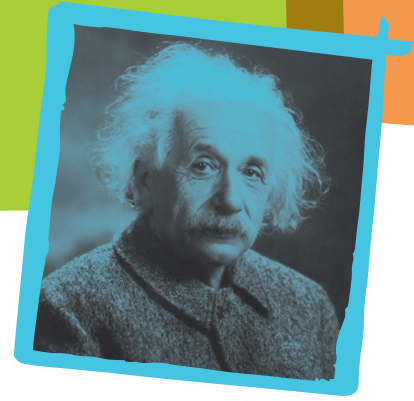
Albert Einstein still went on to become known as one of the greatest physicists of all time.



Albert Einstein



QUESTIONS: Celebrity Number 8



Do you think that Einstein would have had the same success if he was alive today?

Can you name some more famous people with Autism who have had successful careers?



Activity 2

Over the next few pages, we will ask you to identify the learning difficulty or disability which each group of celebrities have in common.

You will need to answer a simple multiple-choice question and then write down what each of these celebrities are famous for in the free text boxes below each picture.

You will need access to the internet to complete this task.

Don't be afraid to ask for help or discuss this with your teacher if you need some support



LMI FACT

Did you know...

in 2013 there were only 2.9 million people with disabilities in employment across the UK, this figure had risen to 4.2 million people by 2019.



Quiz 1



What do all of these famous people have in common? Pick from one of the following:

- ☐ A) They all dye their hair
- ☐ B) They are colour-blind
- ☐ C) They have Dyslexia
- ☐ D) They have Asperger's syndrome.

Do you know, or can you find out why these people are famous/ what is their career/job? Write the answer in the box under their name.

Jennifer Aniston



Richard Branson



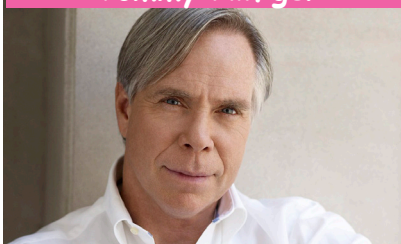
Jim Carrey



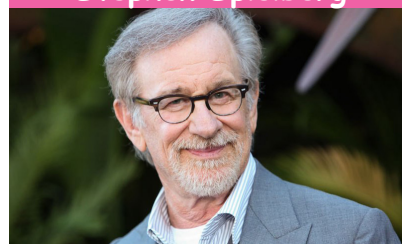
Tom Cruise



Tommy Hilfiger



Stephen Spielberg



Jamie Oliver



Tim Tebow



Charles Schwab



Quiz 2



What do all of these famous people have in common? Pick from one of the following:

- ☐ A) They are colour-blind
- ☐ B) They have ADHD/ADD
- ☐ C) They have Dyslexia
- ☐ D) They all dye their hair

Do you know, or can you find out why these people are famous/ what is their career/job? Write the answer in the box under their name.

Jim Carrey



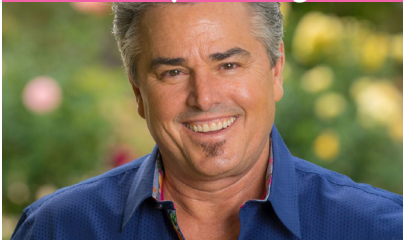
Cher



Zoey Deschanel



Christopher Knight



Emma Watson



Michael Phelps



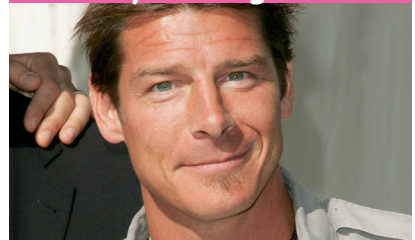
Adam Levine



Howie Mandel



Ty Pennington





Activity 3

In this activity we would like to explore more about you and what you want to be when you are older.

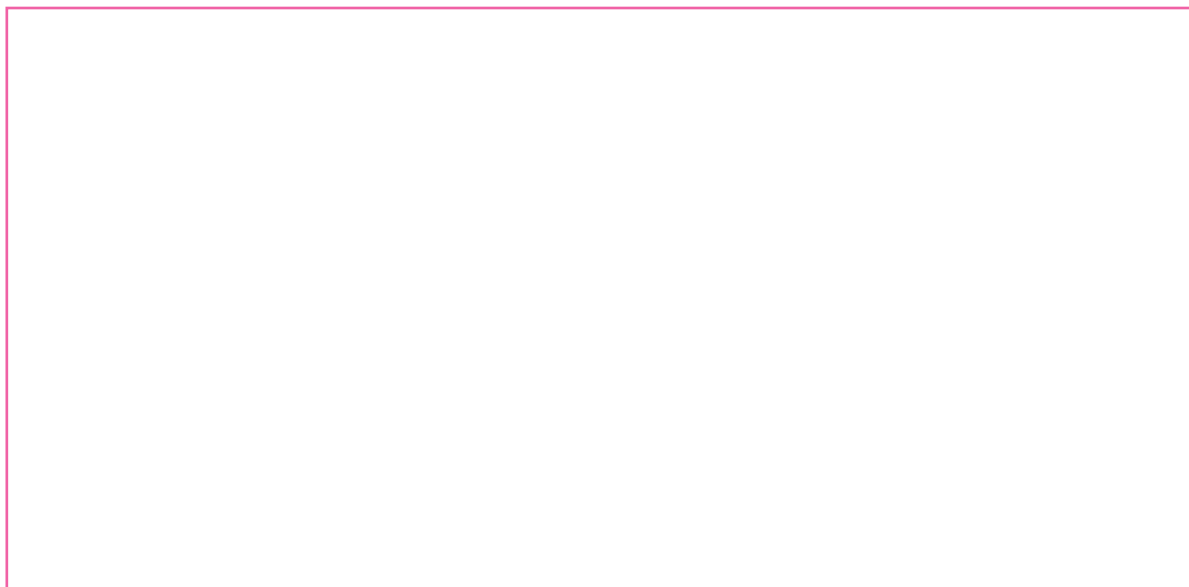
Please answer the questions below.

What would you like to be when you are older?

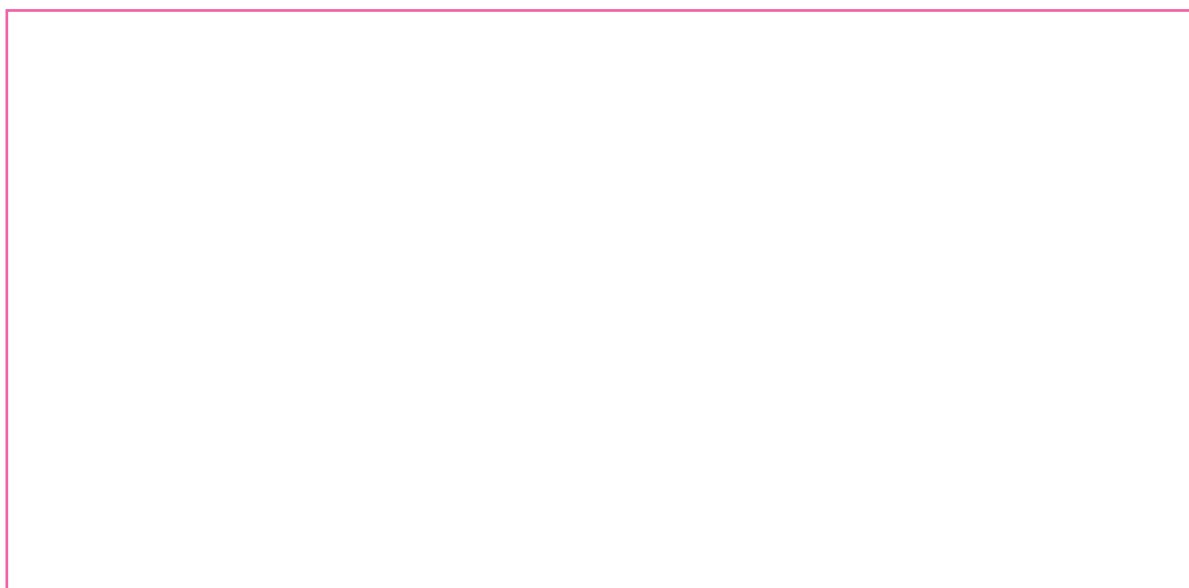
What barriers do you think you will come up against?



How can you use your additional needs to overcome this barrier?



In the box below please draw or write about what you see yourself doing in 10 years' time-



Helpful links:

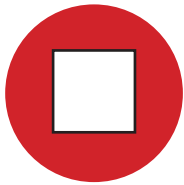
[30 celebrities you didnt know have learning disabilities](#)

[ADHD - Its just a diagnosis](#)

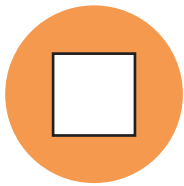


Student Feedback

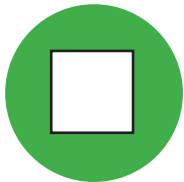
How would you describe your learning in this lesson?



I don't understand the learning in this lesson



It's not easy but I am beginning to understand



I really understand the lesson

Formal Teacher / Teaching Assistant Notes:

Staff Name

Date

Support Required (Tick Box as appropriate)

☐ Independent ☐ Physical ☐ Verbal ☐ One to One ☐ Scribe

Explanation of Support



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