

# 09 Savant Syndrome: A Comparison of Neurodivergence

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Semester 1**  
Length: **1.5 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards

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SCI.HS-LS1	From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes
SCI.HS-LS3	Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits
SCI.HS-LS4	Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

## Enduring Understandings

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- Neurodivergence causes differences in the way people act and relate to others.
- Connection to the course Big Ideas, especially Structure: Function, is strong.
- Savantism challenges us to think differently about the way we think.

## Essential Questions

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- Are you aware of the way you think? What is Metacognition?
- Not everyone thinks about things in the same way.
- What makes someone an "autistic savant?"

## Knowledge and Skills

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### NGSS Skills/Practices

- Asking Questions.
- Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information.

### Knowledge:

- What are some reasons that have been shown to cause Savantism?
- How does brain anatomy connect to Savantism?

- How do brains differ in savants than neurotypical individuals?
- How can Savantism appear differently in different individuals?
- How do Savants differ in processing information than neurotypical individuals?
- What "kind" of Savants are "out there?"
- How can studying Savantism help us to understand neurotypical individuals?
- How can "articulate" Savants teach us about ourselves?

## **Assessments**

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[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wR7bQF-8AQoRrt0g4C3hKja0yjwDjC9\\_BiAmONWbTcl/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wR7bQF-8AQoRrt0g4C3hKja0yjwDjC9_BiAmONWbTcl/edit?usp=sharing)

## **Modifications**

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<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ODqaPP69YkcFiyG72fit8XsUIe3K1VSG7nxuc4CpCec/edit?usp=sharing>