

The Girl Who Thought In Pictures
Discussion Guide
Grades Pre-K – 3rd

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Explore the cover of the book with your students. What pictures are on the cover? What do you think it means to “think in pictures”? What do you predict this book will be about?
- Help your students activate prior knowledge, build curiosity, and set a purpose for reading by having them complete the *The Girl Who Thought in Pictures* [Anticipation Guide](#) before you begin reading.
- Introduce vocabulary: autism, cattle, ranch

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- What do you think the author means that Temple was an unusual girl?
- What sorts of things does Temple dislike? Are there any of these things that you dislike too?
- What did Temple do when she got frustrated? What are some things that you do when you get frustrated?
- What do people tell Temple’s mother to do with her? How does her mother respond?
- What would Temple see in her head when she heard a word?
- How did the kids at school treat Temple? What did she do?
- Why did Temple fit in better on the ranch?
- What did Temple realize about the way that cows think?
- What did Temple invent? How did it work?
- How did Dr. Temple Grandin’s inventions help the cows?
- Why is it surprising that Temple is now a public speaker?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

- Have your students reflect on the author’s message. What do you think the author’s message is? Use details from the book to support your thinking.
- The text is a narrative nonfiction, help your students analyze how and why individuals develop and interact over time with [RIF’s Time= Parts](#) graphic organizer.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the themes by reading other books about people with autism such as [Benji, the Bad Day, and Me](#) and [My Brother Charlie](#).