

**Required Summer Reading
For Incoming Sophomores
2009-2010**

Born on a Blue Day: Inside the Extraordinary Mind of an Autistic Savant.
By: Daniel Tammet

Barnes and Noble in University Park Mall has all of New Prairie's summer reading books on tables in the middle of the store. You will need to purchase the book because you can highlight and write in it. If you get the book from someplace else just make sure it has the same ISBN number on the back: either **ISBN-10: [1416549013](#)** or **ISBN-13: [9781416549017](#)**. Half.com and Amazon.com are two great places to purchase novels for a cheap price. We are only requiring you read chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, and 11.

ENTIRE PROJECT DUE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!!!

Name: _____

Vocabulary Worksheet

Directions: As you run across the following words be sure to look up their meaning. I recommend either www.m-w.com or another online dictionary source. The definition for Asperger's syndrome may be more complicated.

Autism-

Asperger's Syndrome-

Colic-

Epilepsy-

Monosyllabic-

Palindromes-

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Prime Numbers-

Savant-

Settee-

Seizure-

Status Epilepticus-

Stonehenge-

Twin Primes-

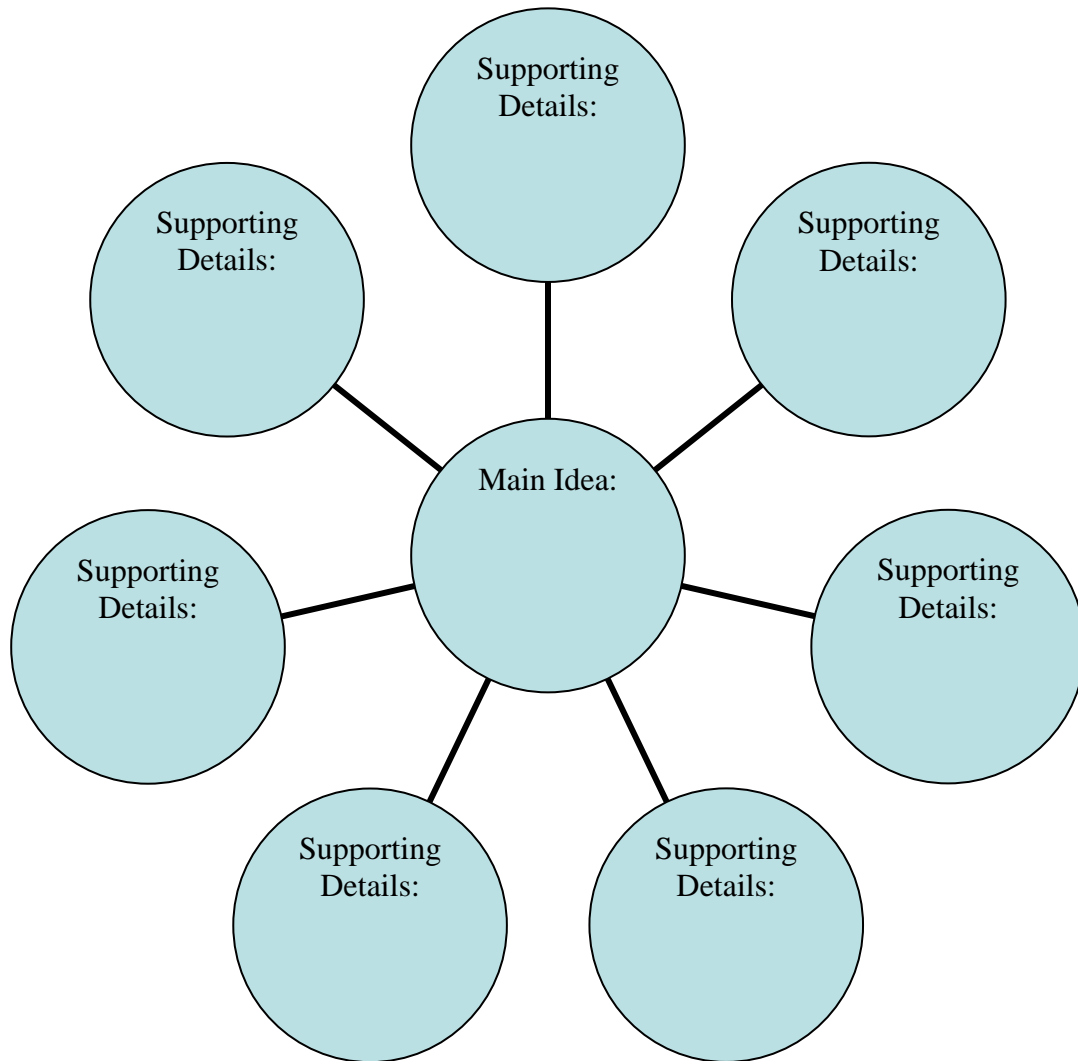
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Article Summary

Directions: Locate one article that pertains to Autism, The Autism Spectrum, Asperger's Syndrome, or Savant Syndrome. This article must not be dated earlier than August 2008 (when doing research we try to keep articles and other forms of text as recent as possible). The article must be at least one full page in length. Once you have located and printed your article, highlight main ideas and supporting details within the text. Use the diagram below to synthesize (combine) your information.



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Novel Questions

Directions: Answer the following questions as they pertain to the novel.

- 1) How does Daniel's experience with numbers and language differ from that of most people?
- 2) What explains his intense attraction to prime numbers?
- 3) How does Daniel characterize his relationships with numbers, and how does it compare to his relationships with people?
- 4) How are Daniel's savant syndrome and his epilepsy connected?
- 5) Of Daniel's many remarkable talents as a savant, which did you find most fascinating and/or interesting and why?
- 6) To what extent is Daniel's need for regularity and predictability a kind of compulsion?
- 7) How does the unexpected affect Daniel?
- 8) What role might his family's reactions to his abilities have played in Daniel's development?
- 9) How would you characterize Daniel's connection to his family as an adult?
- 10) How does Daniel describe his experience of the number pi?
- 11) Why might Daniele have felt a special connection to Kim Peek?
- 12) How does Daniel's experience of autism differ from Kim's, and what abilities do they share?

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Use this checklist to make sure that you are ready to turn in all items the first day of school.

- Vocabulary Sheet: Did you write the definition to all of the words?
- Article Summary: Did you find a 1 page article (dated no earlier than August 2008 and attach it to the back of this packet?)
- Article Summary: Did you synthesize your ideas on the diagram provided?
- Article Summary: Did you then take your information from the diagram and write 1 paragraph, which states the main idea of the article along with supporting details?
- Read: Did you read the following chapters of the novel? (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, and 11 (You can read the other chapters as well but for the sake of our discussions we will only require you to read these chapters)).**
- Novel Questions: Did you answer all of the questions provided?