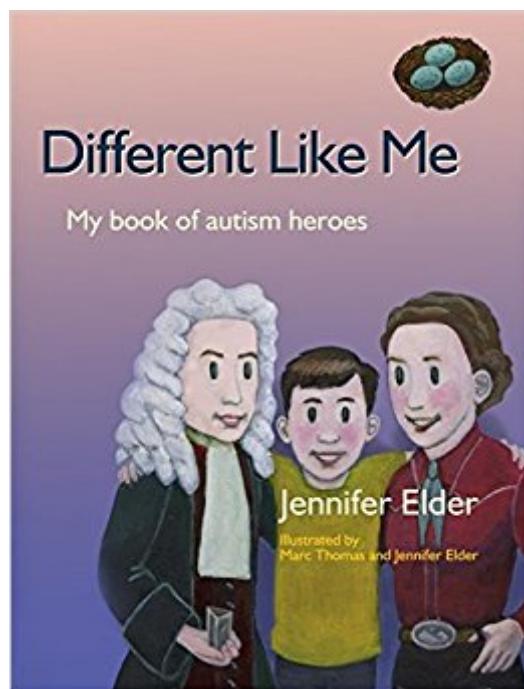


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# Different Like Me: My Book Of Autism Heroes



## **Synopsis**

Different Like Me introduces children aged 8 to 12 years to famous, inspirational figures from the world of science, art, math, literature, philosophy and comedy. Eight-year-old Quinn, a young boy with Asperger's Syndrome, tells young readers about the achievements and characteristics of his autism heroes, from Albert Einstein, Dian Fossey and Wassily Kandinsky to Lewis Carroll, Benjamin Banneker and Julia Bowman Robinson, among others. All excel in different fields, but are united by the fact that they often found it difficult to fit in just like Quinn. Fully illustrated in colour and written in child-friendly language, this book will be a wonderful resource for children, particularly children with autism, their parents, teachers, carers and siblings.

## **Book Information**

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Best Sellers Rank: #53,616 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > Special Needs #111 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs #146 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Special Needs

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

"Different Like Me is a book describing the lives of various people who found it difficult to fit into society. There are both famous and historical people who found it difficult to fit into society. There are both famous and historical people who all excelled in their chosen fields. It is beautifully illustrated and starts with an introduction to Quinn, who describes what it feels like to be different from others-to be, in fact, autistic. The famous people include Albert Einstein, Andy Warhol, Sir Isaac Newton and gives brief pen portraits of their lives, difficulties they encountered and their achievements. The book is written with children between the ages of eight and twelve years in mind,

and could be a useful resource for explaining some of the effects of autism and the feeling of not fitting in or belonging. It offers good role models and will encourage those children with low self-esteem that they, too, can achieve great things." ---Support for Learning

Different Like Me is a well written, informative book that introduces children - aged 8 and up - to quirky famous people; people who excelled in their chosen field, be it music, art, science and even comedy, but didn't quite fit in. I particularly enjoyed the descriptions of what made them tic and the fact that there were a good proportion of women this is a great confidence booster for children with a 'high functioning' Autistic Spectrum Disorder, an opportunity for them to show off, and an enjoyable read for every one, to boot! (Education Otherwise) Autistic children and their friends will find much to admire in these people and will learn that being different can have its positive points. Excellent for school libraries and for the home as well. ([www.healthybooks.org.uk](http://www.healthybooks.org.uk)) I see this book as useful for children aged eight to twelve, for families with a young child with autism and for schools to be able to celebrate difference. So often the differences we identify and celebrate are the visible ones, but it is vital that we can see the individuality of each person as a cause for celebration too. This book will help all those reading it to remember the autism heroes and recognise the special differences and individuality of children with autism. (Rostrum) Different Like Me is a book describing the lives of various people who found it difficult to fit into society. There are both famous and historical people who found it difficult to fit into society. There are both famous and historical people who all excelled in their chosen fields. It is beautifully illustrated and starts with an introduction to Quinn, who describes what it feels like to be different from others- to be, in fact, autistic. The famous people include Albert Einstein, Andy Warhol, Sir Isaac Newton and gives brief pen portraits of their lives, difficulties they encountered and their achievements. The book is written with children between the ages of eight and twelve years in mind, and could be a useful resource for explaining some of the effects of autism and the feeling of not fitting in or belonging. It offers good role models and will encourage those children with low self-esteem, that they, too, can achieve great things. (Support for Learning) I think this book would be a useful addition to the library of any secondary school with youngsters with Asperger's Syndrome or higher level ASD (Michael Jones, Educational Consultant) `Written through the eyes of 8 -year-old Quinn who has Asperger's syndrome (AS), this delightfully illustrated book introduces famous and talented people who are felt to have autism or AS. Historical and present day personalities are included, from the sciences, music, literature, art and comedy. In describing each individual and his or her special talents, this lively little book shows the diversity that is found within the autistic spectrum. The writer gives a clear message that being

different is not just ok but is something to celebrate. Her aim was to help children with autistic spectrum disorders understand their diagnosis. The illustrations and single-page, clearly written accounts make this plausible. Although the book is intended for 8 to 12 year olds, it would also be relevant to families, friends, carers and educators.' (Good Autism Practice)The book begins with a young boy going to the Doctor who subsequently tells him that he is autistic. The doctor explains that this means that he is different and may find it difficult fitting in. The book then introduces him to inspirational famous and historical figures, all of which excel in their own particular field but are united by the fact that they too, found it difficult to fit in. Each page has a different person's life story and an illustration of the person. The stories are written very simply, easily read and understandable, yet truly inspirational and very educational. (Autism Awareness)Albert Einstein, Andy Warhol, Isaac Newton, Lewis Carol and Hans Christian Andersen had one thing in common. According to this book they all had autistic spectrum disorder. It tells the very interesting stories of 20 men and women who didn't "fit in" with other people but were talented and successful in their own fields. The stories are illustrated by original paintings of each person.'Different like me, by Jennifer Elder, is a book that celebrates some of the great things achieved by people on the Autism spectrum. The book is aesthetically pleasing: well presented; beautifully illustrated, and easy to read, both in content and layout. (Children Young People & Families)This book will help inspire kids who are different and shows them that they too can succeed. (Temple Grandin, Associate Professor of Animal Science, Colorado State University, and author of Animals in Translation)

This book was recommended to me by someone on an online forum. It sounded good, so I bought a copy for my autistic son, who has been really unhappy about being autistic lately. He loves it! He took it to school so his classmates and teachers could read it too. Each page of the book is dedicated to a famous autistic person (some I have heard of, some I haven't), and it describes what they were like, good and bad, but emphasising the way each person was able to contribute positively to the world, if not change the world entirely. My son was able to find several famous people who have some similar characteristics to him (obsession with statistics, very clever with maths, has trouble with social skills, sees the world in a very different way). It was particularly useful that the more negative aspects of the famous person's autism were listed, because my son was able to see that just because someone had some difficulties, especially similar difficulties to him, they still made wonderful contributions to our world and are remembered for the good they did. Consequently, my son was able to find reasons to be proud of his autism. He is now sure that there is a great future for him. So, if you have an autistic child or know an autistic child, I highly

recommend this book. They are sure to find famous people with similar characteristics to them, and will also find reasons to be proud of being autistic. This book will also be useful for school and church libraries. It would be fantastic for parents/caregivers/extended family to read in the early days following a child's diagnosis, to find something positive to focus on (I know first-hand that those days can be hard; there's a bit of a grief process to go through).

Great book. Just what young autistic kids need to know. Helps kids both on and off the spectrum begin to understand autism better.

Excellent tool for a school social worker.

HELPful

This book was a big help in a time when my son was losing his confidence in himself. He was starting to notice that he was different from others, but wasn't sure if it was a good thing. The stories of people who were considered different and achieved great things helped to lift his spirits, especially the stories about the scientists because he wants to be a scientist when he grows up.

My autistic godson and his father loved this book. I really enjoyed it as well. It's great to find so many positive role-models in a single book. The illustrations are charming and it was a fun read.

self confident building book for any ASD child...ALSO great for non asd children to understand and appreciate the difference their autism sibling or friend might have to offer!

I gave this book to my autistic son so he could see that he was not alone. He read this book and enjoyed seeing all the other people that could have had autism.

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