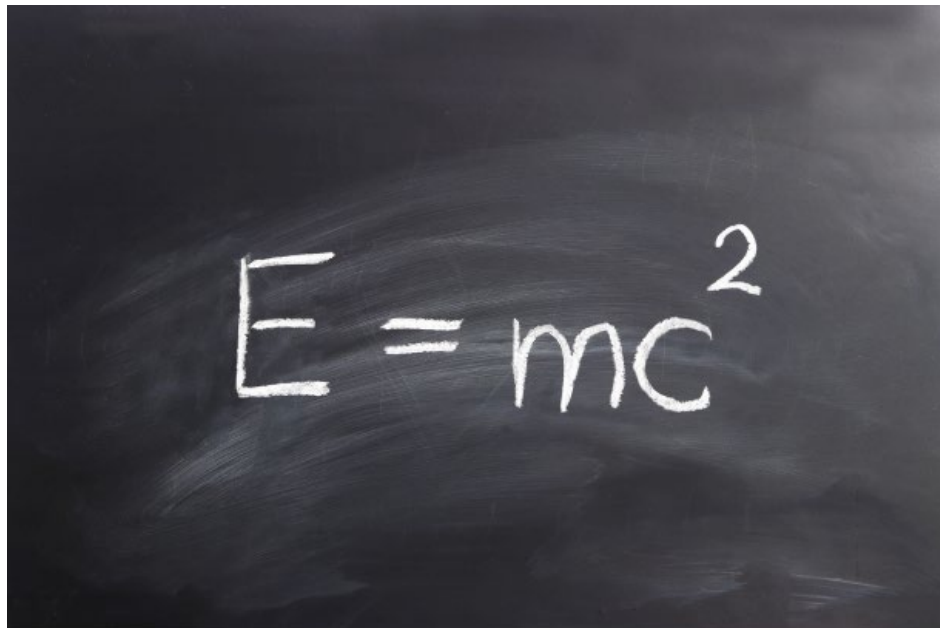


# Albert Einstein

Albert Einstein<sup>1</sup> is known as one of the greatest physicists of all time. Today, Einstein's general theory of relativity remains one of the basic theories of modern physics. You probably know Einstein's famous mass-energy equivalence formula  $E=mc^2$ . In 1921, Einstein received the Nobel Prize in Physics for his contributions to theoretical physics.

Autism expert Simon Baron-Cohen suspects that Albert Einstein likely had Asperger's Syndrome, a type of autism. One of the key features of autism is difficulty with communicating. Albert Einstein did not speak until he was three years old. Throughout his childhood, until about the age of seven, Einstein repeated sentences obsessively. This phenomenon is known as *echolalia*, a trait possessed by many autistics.

Einstein was a poor student in school, but when he was able to focus exclusively on his topic of interest – the science of physics – he accomplished the extraordinary!



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<sup>1</sup> Elder, Jennifer. *Different Like Me: My Book of Autism Heroes*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2006.

Muir, Hazel. "Einstein and Newton showed signs of autism," *New Scientist*, 30 April 2003.  
<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn3676-einstein-and-newton-showed-signs-of-autism.html#.VS6XBGaDnDI>