

GENIUS HOUR

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DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



WHAT ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

- **ON A STICKY NOTE PLEASE TAKE TWO MINUTES TO WRITE DOWN SOME OF THE THINGS YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT (EX. ART, HOCKEY, KNITTING, READING ETC.)**
- **WHEN YOU ARE DONE PLEASE COME UP AND PLACE YOUR STICKY NOTE ON THE CHART PAPER.**
- **RESOURCES: DAY 1 HANDOUT/BRAINSTORMING**

GETTING STARTED WITH GENIUS HOUR

- **VIDEOS: PEP TALK FROM KID PRESIDENT, OBVIOUS TO YOU; AMAZING TO OTHERS, WHERE GOOD IDEAS COME FROM. (ALL ARE AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE WHEN SEARCHING GENIUS HOUR).**

WHAT IS GENIUS HOUR?

STAGE 1: EXPLORING

This is the most important stage. Do not be afraid to spend the majority of your time in this stage. Students need to make sure they can answer their question before committing to it fully.

Resources (from board online databases):

Primary classes: Kids InfoBits and Grolier

Junior classes: Grolier, Encyclopedia Britannica, Canadian Encyclopedia, etc.

Intermediate classes: Encyclopedias, Canada in Context, Canadian Points of View, Google Like a Boss

STAGE 1: EXPLORING (RESOURCES)

- **STUDENT EXAMPLES**
- **CONFERENCING HANDOUT**
- **INQUIRY CONTRACT (Q TASKS BY CAROL KOECHLIN)**

STAGE 2: INVESTIGATING

Many students may end up changing and adapting their question when in this phase of the process. Using the reflection sheet at this point in the process allows students to see where they are and where they need to go.

Resources:

Q Tasks book

Reflection sheet (handout)

STAGE 3: PROCESSING

With our students this phase took the least amount of time and happened fairly organically as students worked towards their final projects. We did conference with some students who were struggling during this time frame.

Resources:
MLA Style Sheet
Rubric

STAGE 4: CREATING

This is the most fun for the students and with Genius Hour it is okay for them to get into this before completing all their research. Students will likely move back and forth between the stages at a different pace than in a standard inquiry project.

Resources:

Primary: Pixie, Photostory, Audacity

Junior: PowerPoint, BitStrips, Weebly, MovieMaker

Intermediate: any of the above, or others approved by the teacher.

STUDENT SAMPLES

GENETICS AND CLONING

Brief Introduction

How I got interested in Genetics

- One day, I overheard my parents talking about having heart disease in our family and how my grand-parents, great-grand-parents all passed away due to that disease. They also were talking about how it is in our gene and how it might also effect him if he doesn't exercise. That got me into thinking, what is this gene thing they are talking about.
- After a brief research I found out that a discipline of science called "genetics" studies all about these genes and our heredities and how they effect us.
- So to simplify, **Genetics is the study of our heredity**. It helps us find who we are, what biological characters we have from our parents, why we are the way we are etc.

HOME DESIGN USING AN APP



RUBIX CUBE CAKE



WEEBLY WEBSITE ON DJ'ING



Back in 1857, one of the coolest inventions was invented by Edouard Leon Scott de Martinville. It was called the Phonoautograph. This machine was the very first device to play and record sound and music.

Martinville was then followed by Thomas Edison who invented the Phonographic cylinder which allowed playback on recorded sounds and music. This modified machine of the phonoautograph was allowed to reproduce the recordings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- **GENIUS HOUR LIVE JOURNAL**
- **[HTTP://WWW.GENIUSHOUR.COM](http://www.geniushour.com)**
- **TO CONTACT US:**
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