KCS @ home

Supporting Gifted Students: Genius Hour

knoxschools.org/kcsathome

"If you are working on something exciting that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed. The vision pulls you."
-Steve Jobs

Genius Hour

Student Engagement, Personalization, and Connecting Globally

@KListNH @TechHolly

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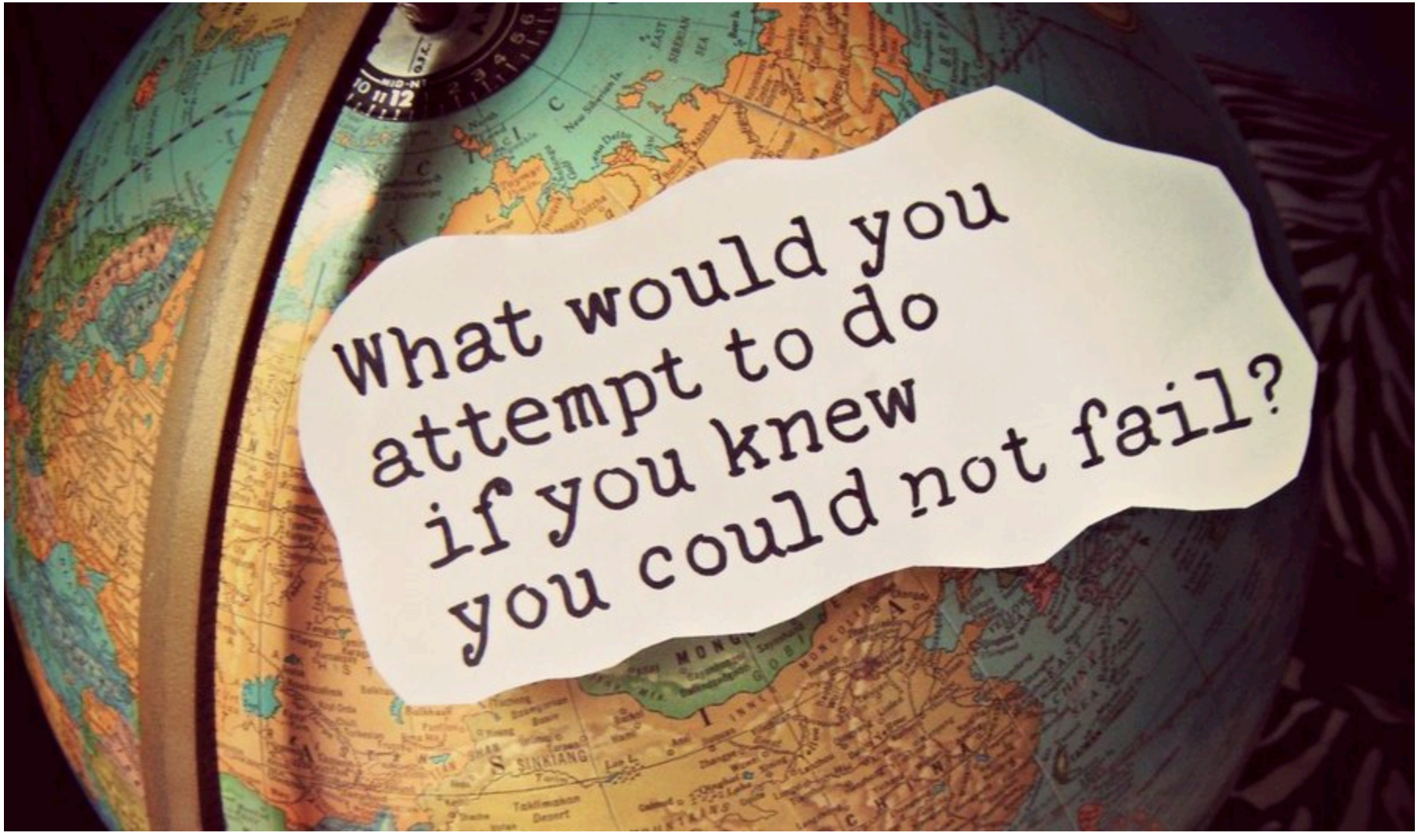
How Can One Question Change the World?

If I lived in a part of the world where it doesn't rain much, where would I find clean drinking water?

@KListNH
@TechHolly


What would you
attempt to do
if you knew
you could not fail?

What is Genius Hour?

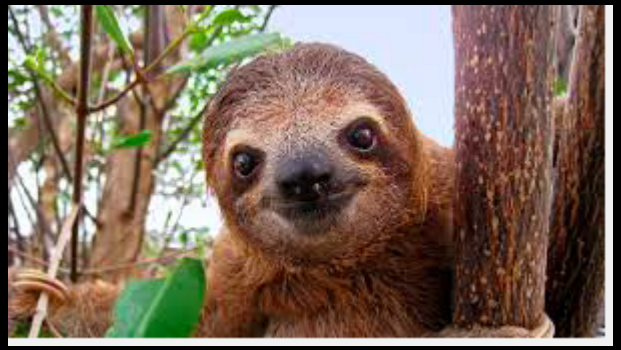
Sometimes called "Passion Projects" or "20% Projects"

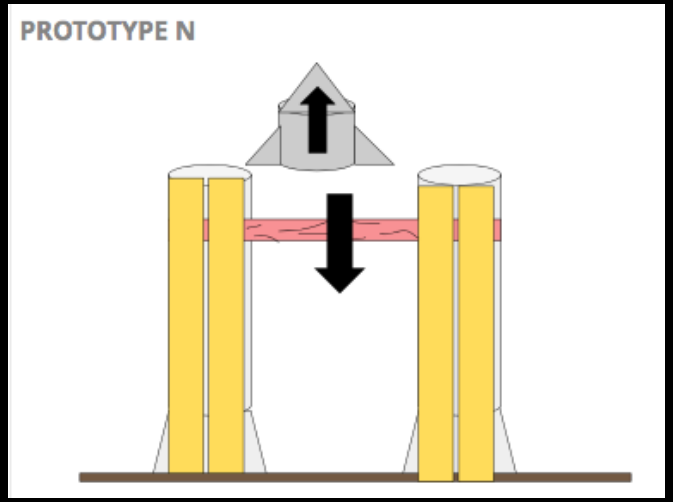
Originated at Google, where employees dedicate 20% of their time to developing their own ideas (such as gmail and Google News)

The idea is catching on in schools as a way to promote student-driven, personalized learning

Encourages students to come up with their own questions, do their own research and form their own conclusions.

What are you passionate about?





Student-Driven "Genius" Steps

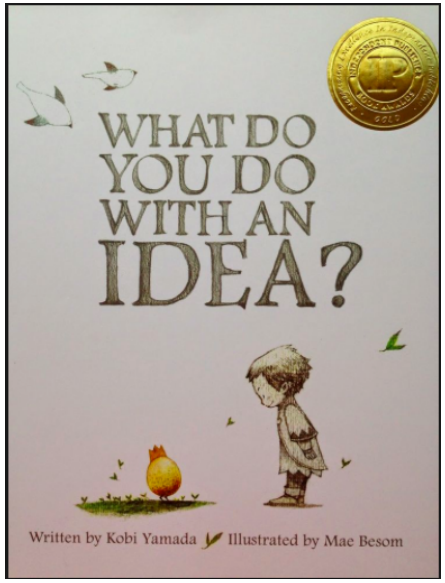
Come up with an idea
Research
Create
Share

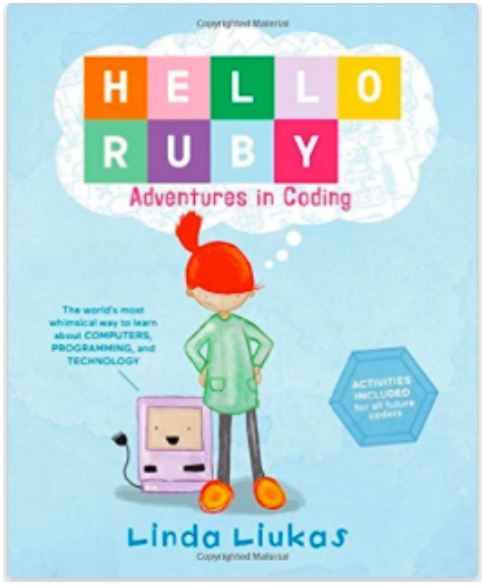
The Idea

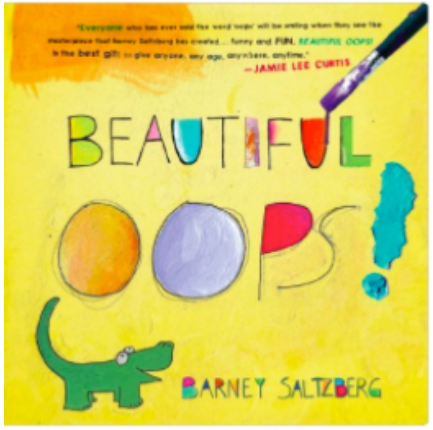
Develop a big question

Is it something I care about?

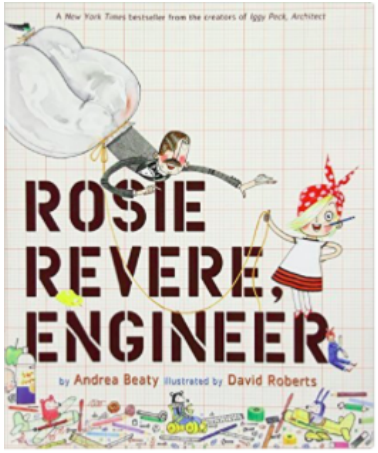
How will I research it?







Hall of Fame Mentor Texts



The Research

What is the difference between a Google question, and a research question?

Create and Adjust

"There is no greater integrity, no greater goal achieved, than an idea expressed through something made with your hands.

It's an education in getting your hands dirty, in understanding why you made what you made, and owning the impact of that work in the world."

- John Maeda, President RISD

IF "Plan A"
Didn't Work.
The alphabet has
25 more letters!
Stay Cool.

Let Your Voice Be Heard

Podcasts
Kidblog
youtube
model/prototype
diagram or drawing
podcast
book
experiments
Ted Talk
poster or pic collage
Google Site

Curriculum Connections

Writing - persuasive, informational, and narrative practice

Research Skills - evaluating sources, student-safe search engines

Interpreting Data - using graphic sources

Exploring Digital Media Literacy - nonfiction reading skills

Collaboration - peer-review, global community, experts in field

Expression of ideas - verbally, in writing, through creativity

Supporting Digital Citizenship

The Importance of Soft Skills

Soft skills is a term often used by careers advisors and employers to describe the kind of essential personal skills and social capabilities people need to be able to do most jobs.

Time management

Presenting ideas

Communication

Team work

Attitude

Where does it fit?

On Friday, focusing on weekly curriculum

As part of a specific unit

(ex: ecosystems, government, geometry)

Morning work/end of the day

First or last day of the month

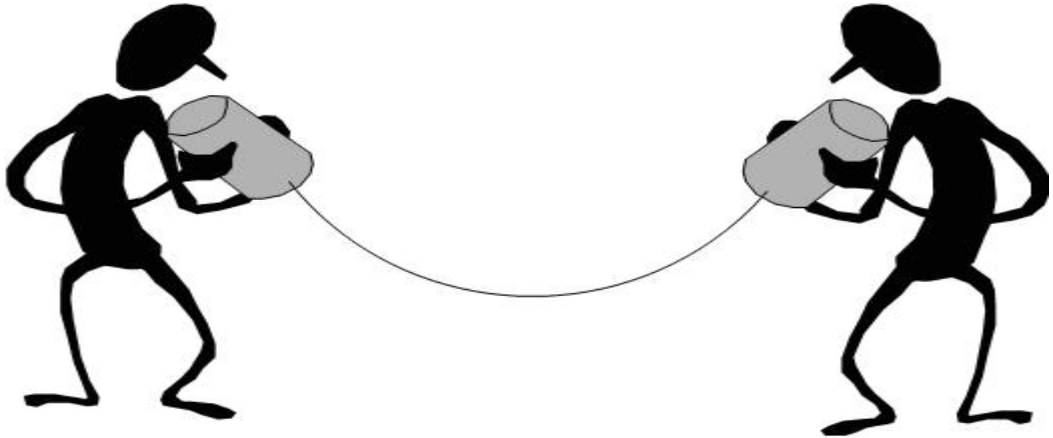
Show videos of interesting ideas

to stretch students' thinking

Making Connections

Discover mentors from your community - engineers, game designers, experts in robotics, pilots, poets, chefs, and teachers/professors

Students can become mentors to other classes who are getting started, especially with younger students



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Join the Community

Follow @GeniusHour
Join a Twitter chat - first Thursday of the month at 6:00pm
Pinterest
geniushour.com
Ask a colleague!
youtube
Ted Education

Three Great Resources

- What are you wondering?
  wonderopolis.org

- What's going on in the world?
  Newsela.com

Engineering is Elementary
www.eie.org

If it’s still in your mind, it’s worth taking the risk.

-Paulo Coelho

THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development

Exploring our own Passions

Bay of Fundy
Maine
Montreal
Ottawa
Vermont
New Hampshire
New York
Massachusetts
Lake Ontario
Toronto
Connecticut
Long Island Sound
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image Landsat
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