

Name: _____ Class: _____

Genius Hour

Intro

Genius Hour, or 20% time, is a practice used at many companies, one of which is Google. This means that Google employees are encouraged and allowed to use 20% of their time to work on solving any problem or inventing any product that interests them. Whether this is one day out of a 5-day week or ~2 hours a day is up to them. Gmail is one product that we now have because of how one employee used his/her 20% time. **Fun Fact:** The word “genius” *means creating and producing*.

We will devote the next week or so to Genius Hour. Bring your chromebooks **daily** until we are done. We will start with researching a famous or groundbreaking scientist - from a list - and writing a 3-paragraph (minimum, feel free to write more) paper about this person. There will be a variety of scientists from which to choose, but no two people may write about the same scientist in the same class.

Proposal – Guided Thinking and Preparation

1. What is your **topic** of interest? List 3 things you are interested in learning more about. (What do you love to do or learn about? Do you have a problem to solve? An invention? A curiosity about some scientific process or phenomenon?) Then, PICK ONE.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2. Write 3 questions you have or 3 “I wonder...” statements about this topic.

- a.
- b.
- c.

3. Find a scientist from the class list who studied this topic or something similar to it.

4. What do you need from me to help you do this?

5. List the 2 things you are most worried about regarding this project.

Thing I'm worried about	How to address this issue
1.	
2	

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Checklist to work through IN ORDER:

- Brainstorm, do a little digging, and choose a scientist.
- Get this approved/sign up with Mrs. Stotz-Mason or the teacher in the room.

Research your scientist using the following resources: [Worldbook](#) , [SLED](#) , [Gale in Context](#) , [Biography Reference Center](#)
 . DO NOT GOOGLE or use Wikipedia. Include:

- 1) his/her background & education (if applicable – some scientists never went to school)
- 2) groundbreaking experiments/ discoveries/inventions, and
- 3) how his/her discoveries have impacted humans today.
- **Each** of these should be a paragraph – 3 paragraphs total.
- Compile at least 20 facts in a google doc to make it easy to keep track of the sources you used. *Suggestion: include a photo or two of your scientist and/or the discoveries or models they used and studied.*
- Arrange these facts in a logical order. Most likely, this will be chronological. (in order of time)
- **Write your paper. Yes, you are writing a paper. It will be typed and printed and handed in with a reference page.**
- Have a classmate peer edit your **paper if there is time.**
- Create a reference page using APA STYLE. (Ms. Gann will show you)
- 12 pt font, Times New Roman, 1-inch margins. Anything else and I will set your paper on fire.
- **Due Thursday, October 13th.** This is an early release day.
- Relax and reflect!
- Fun fact: you will have ~5 days total *in class* to accomplish these tasks. You may work on it outside of class, but you must use class time wisely. If you finish it early, make sure to bring other homework to class.

Reflection

Date	What will you accomplish?/What did you accomplish?	Reflection (What went well? What didn't?)
Thursday/Friday 10/6-7	Choose scientist Start getting 20 facts	
Monday 10/10	Finish 20 facts Start organizing into 3 paragraphs and writing	
Tuesday 10/11	Finishing first draft	
Wednesday 10/12	Edit/print – last day to work	

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Thursday 10/13	Early Release – last chance to print and turn in	
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End of Project Reflection

1. What did you learn while doing this project? A new skill? Facts that blew your mind?

2. What struggles did you overcome?

3. How will you approach the next genius hour differently?