

Curriculum and Instruction Newsletter

Genius Hour for the Classroom

Genius Hour is a concept that is associated with Google whereby their employees can spend up to 20% of their work time developing concepts which are of particular interest to them. The premise behind this idea is that employees will be intrinsically committed to their work. The central idea for Google is that their employees will be motivated by curiosity and passion which will fuel their creativity productivity, and overall happiness. This will in turn benefit the company in terms of work performance.



How does this work in our classrooms? Genius Hour provides students with the freedom to design their own learning during a time set aside in a supportive class setting. Thus, promoting student independence, creativity, inquiry and research. Traditionally, teachers tailor assignments based on standards, and unit plans. However, with the Genius Hour, teachers do not construct the framework for assignments. Students are given a choice in what they learn and how they learn it. The Genius Hour framework centers around a sense of purpose, socialization, creativity, inquiry, design and the 80/20 ratio.

6 Principles Of Genius Hour In The Classroom

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