

Advanced Technology Genius Hour

1. You will spend every Friday, working on what we'll call Genius Hour.
2. You may work alone or with a small group.
 - Decide carefully. If you choose a small group, you will have to compromise with your group and deal with other personalities. If you work alone, you have complete autonomy but you are responsible for the outcome.
 - Is this person a worker or floater?
 - Can I get along with this person for the entire semester?
 - Is this person going to keep on track or distract me?
 - This is not about hanging out with friends, but making something really cool.
3. Choose a project that is new to you and something you wouldn't normally do in another academic class.
 - If you are stuck, do some research on other educational 20% projects and take another look at what Google has done.
4. You must produce a product or achieve some sort of goal.
5. Write up a proposal and pitch it to the rest of the class that includes a purpose, audience, timeline, and resources you will need to complete the project. You will present your pitch in a "science-fair"-type poster session in front of other students, teachers, and guests.
6. Choose an adult to be your official mentor. I am a Science/Technology teacher, I do not have a lot of experience with some of the projects you might choose.
7. Reflect on the process each week on a personal blog.
8. If, at any moment, you feel lost, overwhelmed, or uninspired, you must set a meeting with me to find a solution.
9. At the end of the course, you will present your project and reflect on the process in a five-minute TED-style talk.
10. Failure is an option. Simply learning from your mistakes teaches you a lot.