

## **20 Time in the Middle School Gifted Classroom**

Mrs. Lara Butler

[lbutler@habershamschools.com](mailto:lbutler@habershamschools.com)

Link to this document at:

<https://goo.gl/lDJEAZ>

### **For Inspiration**

**Daniel Pink (2009) "The Puzzle of Motivation" TED Talk**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/dan\\_pink\\_on\\_motivation?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_pink_on_motivation?language=en)

**Daniel Pink's book Drive**

<http://www.danpink.com/drive/>

**Sir Ken Robinson's TED Talk**

[Sir Ken Robinson, TED Talk, "Do Schools Kill Creativity?"](#)

### **Books and Resources**

**Juliani, A.J. (2014). Inquiry and Innovation in the Classroom**

<http://ajjuliani.com/my-new-book-inquiry-and-innovation-in-the-classroom/>

**Juliani, A.J. The Complete Guide to 20%Time (Free Course - 4 Modules)**

<http://ajjuliani.com/20-time-guide/>

**Brookhauser, Kevin (2015). The 20 Time Project: How Educators Can Launch Google's Formula for Future-Ready Innovation**

<http://www.amazon.com/The-20Time-Project-future-ready-innovation/dp/1502305240>

**Wettrick, Don (2014). Pure Genius: Building a Culture of Innovation and Taking 20% Time to the Next Level**

<http://www.amazon.com/Pure-Genius-Building-Culture-Innovation/dp/0988217627>

**Krebs, D. & Zvi, G. (2015). The Genius Hour Guidebook: Fostering Passion, Wonder, and Inquiry in the Classroom**

[https://www.amazon.ca/The-Genius-Hour-Guidebook-Fostering/dp/1138937436?ie=UTF8&\\*Version\\*=1&\\*entries\\*=0](https://www.amazon.ca/The-Genius-Hour-Guidebook-Fostering/dp/1138937436?ie=UTF8&*Version*=1&*entries*=0)

**Maiers, A., & Sandvold, A. (2010) The Passion-Driven Classroom: A Framework for Teaching & Learning.**

<http://www.amazon.com/Passion-Driven-Classroom-The-Framework-Teaching/dp/1596671599>

## **Picture Books/Read-Alouds for Genius Hour (For Elementary)**

**Gallit Zvi's Top 7 Picture Books to Introduce Genius Hour**

<http://www.gallitzvi.com/home/top-7-picture-books-to-help-introduce-genius-hour>

**The Most Magnificent Thing by Ashley Spires**

<http://www.kidscanpress.com/products/most-magnificent-thing>

**Rose Rever Engineer by Andrea Beaty**

<https://www.andreabeaty.com/rosie-revere-engineer.html>

**Iggy Peck Architect by Andrea Beaty**

<http://www.amazon.com/Iggy-Peck-Architect-Andrea-Beaty/dp/081091106X>

**The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds**

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Dot-Peter-H-Reynolds/dp/0763619612>

**It's Okay to Make Mistakes by Todd Parr**

<http://www.amazon.com/Okay-Make-Mistakes-Todd-Parr/dp/0316230537>

**Stella: Star of the Sea by Marie-Louise Gay**

<http://www.amazon.com/Stella-Star-Sea-Sam/dp/0888999925>

**Q is for Question by Tiffani Poirier**

<http://qisforquestion.com/>

**Going Places by Paul and Peter Reynolds**

<http://www.amazon.com/Going-Places-Paul-A-Reynolds/dp/1442466081>

**Someday by Eileen Spinelli**

<http://www.amazon.com/Someday-Eileen-Spinelli/dp/0803729413>

**Beautiful Oops by Barney Saltzberg**

<http://www.amazon.com/Beautiful-Oops-Barney-Saltzberg/dp/076115728X>

## **Videos**

**What is Genius Hour? Introduction to Genius Hour in the Classroom by Kris Kesler**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMFQUtHsWhc>

**Genius Hour by Big Brain Academy**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FEQzKH7v0-Q>

**Genius Hour Introduction by Michelle Krzmarzick**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9FurJmKJT8>

**Hugh McDonald's 23 Videos that Sparked Genius Hour Thinking, Collaboration, and Actions**

<https://hughtheteacher.wordpress.com/2013/07/27/23-videos-that-sparked-genius-hour-thinking-collaboration-and-actions/>

**Hugh McDonald's 26 More Videos that Sparked Genius Hour Thinking, Collaboration, and Actions**

<https://hughtheteacher.wordpress.com/2014/12/31/26-more-videos-that-sparked-genius-hour-thinking-collaboration-and-actions-in-our-class/>

**Websites**

**Joy Kirr's LiveBinder**

<http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=829279>

**Genius Hour Guide Resources**

<http://www.geniushourguide.org/>

**Genius Hour: Where Passions Come Alive**

<http://www.geniushour.com/>

**20 Time in Education**

<http://www.20timeineducation.com/>

**Genius Hour Wiki**

<http://geniushour.wikispaces.com/>

**The Global Genius Hour Project**

<http://theglobalgeniushourproject.wikispaces.com/home>

**Engage Their Minds - Genius Hour Resources**

<http://engagetheirminds.com/genius-hour-resources/>

**Nancy Carroll's Teaching is Elementary**

<http://teachingiselementary.blogspot.com/2013/01/genius-hour-reviewed.html>

**Today is a Great Day for Learning**

<https://hughtheteacher.wordpress.com/2012/07/09/1-genius-thing-we-did-in-our-class-this-year/>

## **People to follow on Twitter**

Kevin Brookhouser [@brookhouser](#)

Juan De Luca [@DeLucaEd](#)

Joy Kirr [@JoyKirr](#)

Denise Krebs [@mrsdkrebs](#)

Gallit Zvi [@gallit\\_z](#)

Hugh McDonald [@hughtheteacher](#)

Angela Maiers [@AngelaMaiers](#)

A.J. Juliani [@ajjuliani](#)

Paul Solarz [@PaulSolarz](#)

Kate Petty [@techclassroom](#)

## **Chat**

1st Thursday of each month at 9 pm EST (moderators [@gallit\\_z](#) & [@mrsdkrebs](#))

[@geniushour](#)

August 7, 2015

## **Bobcat Time: 20time**

Dear Parents:

We are excited to offer a new program for our 6<sup>th</sup> grade Gifted students. The program will take place during "Bobcat Time" which takes place each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 30 minutes during the school day.

### **What is 20time?**

Companies like Google have done "Genius Hour" or "20% Time" for many years. The idea is that, for 80% of the time, employees work on regular work tasks, but for 20% of the time, employees can work on that which they are passionate about in relation to Google. This is how Gmail and many other programs at Google came to be.

This year, we plan to allow our students time during their school day to work on something that they are passionate about. A big reason students will benefit from 20time is that it is highly engaging. Research has shown that students are more engaged when they have a say in what they learn about. During the course of the year, students will spend Bobcat Time finding a project they are interested in and research it through self-directed and inquiry-based learning. Finally, they will create a presentation to share with everyone.

### **How does 20time relate to the school curriculum?**

A major component of 20time is research. Students will spend a lot of time researching, investigating, and exploring their project during class. Additionally, students will work on writing through blogging about their projects. Students will also interact with other students' blogs by reading, responding, and giving feedback. Finally, students will present and share their projects with others which helps students practice their public speaking and presentation skills. All of these activities provide the opportunity for students to practice critical thinking, communication, and digital literacy skills.

## **20time Guidelines**

### **Goals of this Course:**

- to promote, support, and model creative, innovative thinking, and inventiveness.
- to allow students an opportunity to discover/investigate one of their passions or interests and reflect on/share their learning with others.
- provide students and teachers an opportunity to develop skill sets that are valuable in any learning situation (research, experimentation, collaboration, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking)
- to provide an opportunity for students to share their 20time Projects with each other and improve communication skills

### **Brainstorming (1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks)**

At the beginning of the 9 weeks, students will begin brainstorming ideas for a project proposal. At the end of the project window, students should have made something that is a completed product. It could be an event or service to help others in the school or community. It could also be a digital project like a short film or video game. However, it can also be a presentation of information learned from a variety of topics, ranging from ideas such as "How to create a vegetable garden", or "How the mind creates memories".

### **The Proposal (2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks)**

Once the student has an idea of what project/topic they want to pursue, they will begin researching information and writing the project proposal. Students will "pitch" the project/topic to the class. Each project must be approved by the teacher.

### **The Blog (weekly starting 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks)**

Each week, during Bobcat Time, the student is required to write a blog post to discuss their progress. They will write about the week, what they worked on, what they learned, what challenges they faced, and what they anticipate in the future. Each blog post must be at least 150 words.

### **Everyday Work (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks)**

Throughout the course, students will have Bobcat time to work on their research and projects. If students need to be off-campus to work on their projects, they are welcome to do that on their own time during weekends or afternoons and use the scheduled class time as a productive tutorial period, meeting period, or writing period. This is not meant to be homework or work outside of class.

### **Final Presentation (4<sup>th</sup> 9 weeks)**

Students will use class time to create a presentation to share with the class. They will also decide how they will share with other students outside of class, with the community, or with another group.

### **Timeline and Assessment**

This course will be run as a pass/fail class. In order to meet the requirements of this class, students must meet the guidelines for each 9 weeks period.

### **Schedule**

**1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks:** explore interests, introduction to blogging, components of a good proposal

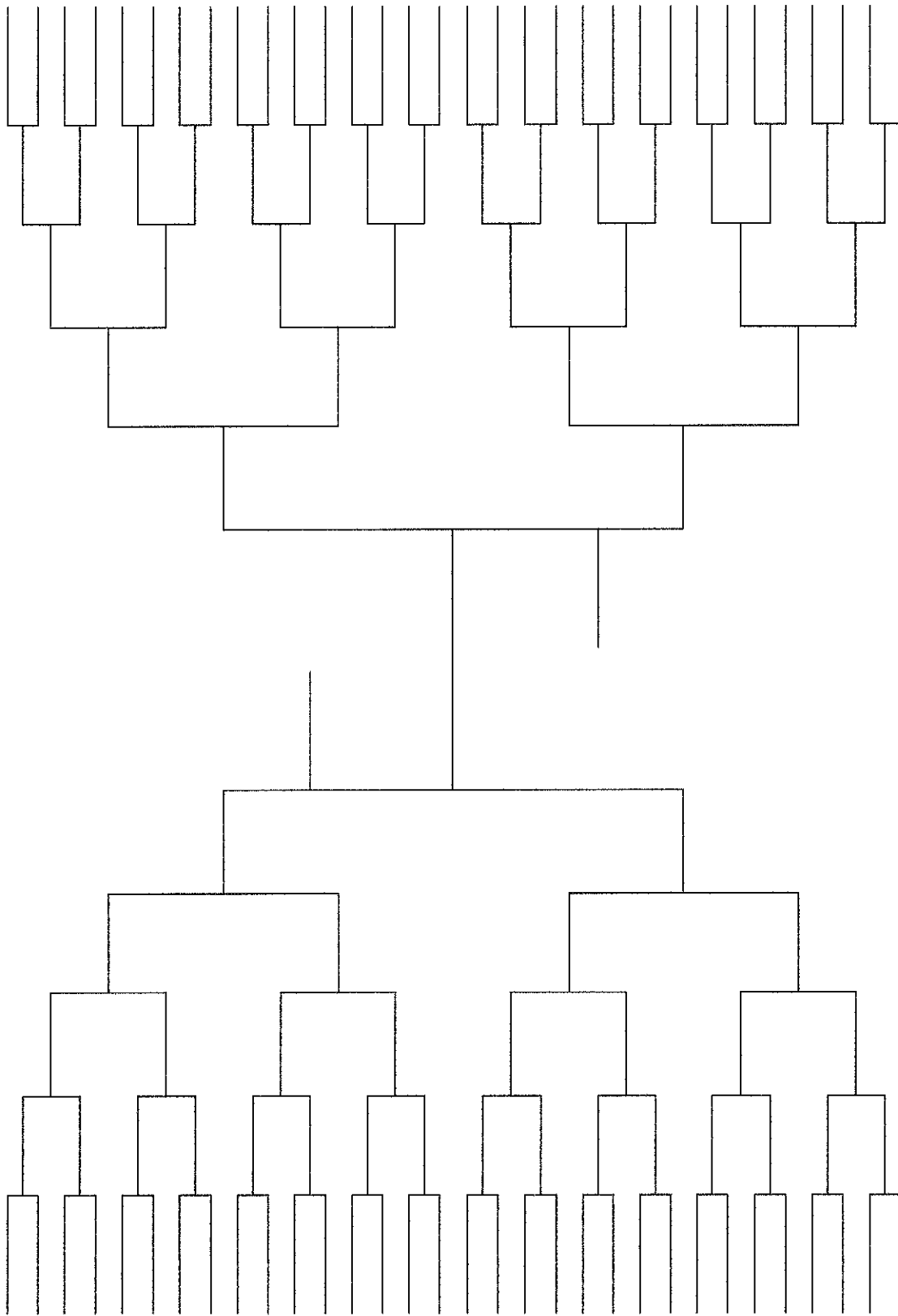
**2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks:** research skills, begin project proposals, and blogs

**3<sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks:** continue research and weekly blogs, work on final project

**4<sup>th</sup> 9 weeks:** create project presentation, public speaking and presentation skills, share project with class and others

I look forward to working with students this year and cannot wait to see what projects they come up with. This class is not meant to be additional work for students, but a way for students to decide what they want to learn about and share it with others. Please don't hesitate to contact me at school during my planning time (706-754-2915) or you can email me at [lbutler@habershamschools.com](mailto:lbutler@habershamschools.com)





**What is your passion?**



# For the Students Who Don't Know What To Do For 20Time.....

## Questions to Spur Conversation / Interest Surveys

- What are your hobbies?
- What are you really good at? - TEN things
- What do you love? What breaks your heart about what you love?
- What do you hate? What REALLY upsets you?
- What are five everyday problems that bother you?
  - What can you do about them?
- What do you do when no one is telling you what to do?
- What do you do when you are "supposed to be doing something else"?
- What types of information do you read and watch?
- What television shows do you watch?
- What television show do you wish existed?
- What are you crazy excited about?
- What do you wonder about? - TEN things
- If you could take any class in school, what would it be?
- If you could plan a field trip, where would you choose?
- What do you never have time for, but would love the extra time so you could get better?
- What do you hope to be when you grow up?
- What is your favorite vacation spot?
- What do you like to do at home?
- If you could interview anyone in the world (living or dead), who would it be?
- Where do you dream about visiting some day?
- What is something you are terrible at, but still enjoy doing?
- If you were given one million dollars, but had to donate it, what charities would you donate it to and why?
- What is something you think should be invented?
- What is something you've always wanted to do, but were too afraid to try?
- Who do you admire the most, and why?
- If you could go back in time to any time period, where would you go, and why?
- What would you work on if no one was watching over you?
- How would it be different if...?
- What are the reasons...?
- Suppose that...? / What if...?
- What is the purpose of...?
- What would change if...?
- What is your perfect day? (You are already well-rested.)

I would like to learn to change...  
I would like to learn about...  
I would like to learn to test...  
I would like to learn to do...  
I would like to learn to create...  
I would like to learn to make...  
It really bugs me when...  
I think a lot about...  
When I ..., it gives me a deep satisfaction and sense of accomplishment.  
Every time I see..., I want to figure out how it's done!  
I cannot stop talking about, thinking about, dreaming about...  
I would do.... for free!  
When I'm doing... I'm the happiest and most engaged.  
When I'm doing... time flies!  
I wake up thinking about...  
Create your own "March Madness" bracket.  
Diamond Ranking  
Identify the activities that light you up...

### **Websites for Students to Explore**

30-Day Challenge -  
[http://www.ted.com/talks/matt\\_cutts\\_try\\_something\\_new\\_for\\_30\\_days](http://www.ted.com/talks/matt_cutts_try_something_new_for_30_days)  
100 Happy Days - <http://100happydays.com/>  
Animation and Stop Motion - [Resources Here](#)  
Arduino (must purchase kit/parts) - <http://arduino.cc/>  
Curiosity.com - <https://curiosity.com/>  
Digital Photography - [Challenges Here](#)  
Digital Video - [Challenges Here](#)  
DIY - <https://diy.org/>  
DIY Science & Math - <http://howtosmile.org/>  
Snapguide DIY - <http://snapguide.com/>  
Game Making - [Tools Here](#)  
GeoSettr - <http://geosettr.com/>  
Give It 100 Challenge - <https://giveit100.com/>  
Innovation Challenges - [See them here](#)  
Instructables - <http://www.instructables.com/>  
Jewelry Making - [Tools/Ideas Here](#)  
Learn Guitar - [Resources Here](#)  
Legos - [LegoMaster Challenges](#)  
Made With Code - <https://www.madewithcode.com/>  
Photo-A-Day Challenge -  
<http://fatmumslim.com.au/photo-a-day-challenge-lists-see-them-all-here/>  
Podcasting - [Challenges Here](#)

Programming - [Resources Here](#)

Quirky - <https://www.quirky.com/>

Sodaplay - <http://sodaplay.com/>

Spoken Word/Poetry - <http://www.poetrysoup.com/>

Teach Yourself Anything -

<http://www.webdistortion.com/2011/10/02/60-educational-resources/>

The Kid Should See This - <http://thekidshouldseethis.com/>

The Tinkering Studio (must purchase a kit) - <http://tinkering.exploratorium.edu/projects>

TinkerLab - <http://tinkerlab.com/welcome-tinkerlab-makers/>

Wonderopolis - <http://wonderopolis.org/>

**Introduce children to new programs and tools to spur their interest:**

1. [Scratch](#)
2. [Raspberry pi](#)
3. [Squishy circuits](#)
4. [LEGO Mindstorm](#)
5. [Sploder](#)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### 20 Time Project Proposal

1. What is the name of your project?
2. What would you like to learn from this project?
3. Why is this important to you?
4. What is your main question?
5. What do you already know?
6. Create a list of search terms you will use?
7. What final project do you envision?
8. How long do you think your project will take to finish?
9. What resources or materials will you need?
10. Who is the audience for ~~this~~ project?

## **20 Time Project Pitch Presentation**

You must “pitch” your idea to the class. You can choose the format for your pitch. However, your pitch must include the following:

- Your Name
- Your Idea
- Why You Chose the Project
- Your Main Question
- What You Already Know
- Funding - Are There Any Costs Involved?
- What You Plan to Research During Class
- Who Your Audience Is
- How You Plan to Share Your Ideas With Others
- What Materials You Need to Complete Your Project

# 20Time Blogs

Each week as we work on our projects, you will be required to blog about the process. Blog posts are a great way for you to reflect and for your audience to see how your project took shape.

By the end of your project **in May**, your blog will need to have the following things:

- Blogs: must be updated **once a week with reflections, news about the project or resources you will use**
- What is your project? (Explain the “problem” you are going to solve, and why you chose the project). You may wish to include your pitch on this page.
  - Background information about your topic
  - Final Formal Reflection

## Ideas for weekly posts:

- What kinds of things inspired you this week?
- Are their pictures or videos of your project you can share?
- Did you find a great resource? Share it!
- Visit one of your partners’ Blogs. Read some of their posts and leave helpful comments (not “Hey that’s cool”). Do you have a resource that might help them? Recommend it!
- Visit one of your partners’ Blogs. Read some of their posts and see if their resources are helpful to you. If so, create a resource post, and explain who you got it from.
- Conduct an interview. Post the transcript or a video of it!
- Write an email to someone knowledgeable about your topic. Share your email and their response!
- Do you have a survey to send out? Post it, and explain who you would like to have take it
- This week I learned... (you can also create a thinking map here)
- What helped or hindered you in learning today?
- Reflect on your progress and your efforts, areas of strength and weakness and provide specific examples...
- What areas have you really improved on over the past week?
- What is challenging you right now? Why? What are your ideas for overcoming it?
- What is puzzling you?
- Write three questions you still have, two “ahas”, and one suggestion for improvement.
- What is your opinion about...Why do you feel that way?
- Connect what you learned today to ....
- What thinking skills did you use today?
- What are you learning about yourself from working on this project?
- What do you still want to know more about? How will you find out?

- What do you do when you are working on a project and you find yourself unable to do something?
- What are some strategies you can use to keep on track?
- What do you notice about your thinking?
- How did you remember that information?
- Are you checking your understanding as you work? How?
- Are there other ways you could work that may be better?
- How can you see an error if you make one?
- How could you expand on this? What is the logical next step? What is missing? What needs to be filled in?
- When might it be a good idea to revise something? Why do you think that is so?
- What can you tell me about your project?
- What is the most important thing you learned from this? Why?
- What did you think was easy to do and hard to do? Why?
- What changes would you want to make?
- Did you meet all of your goals?
- How did your planning contribute to the success of the project?
- What did you learn about yourself by doing this project?
- How has your thinking affected your learning?
- What goals can you set for the future?
- How can you apply your learning to new situations?
- This piece of work is an example of:
- I want you to notice...
- I am especially proud of...
- This piece of work shows how I used to...
- But now I...
- The most difficult part was...
- This piece of work was my favorite because...
- This piece of work was my least favorite because...
- This piece shows how well I work with others because...
- This piece shows how I take charge of my own learning by...
- This piece shows how I've learned to use thinking skills by...
- You can see how much I've improved in... because...
- This piece shows how I still need to improve in... because...
- These pieces show how I met my goals because...
- These pieces show how I can assess my own learning because...
- These pieces show I can reflect because...

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **20 Time Project Reflection**

1. Why did you pick your topic?
2. Did you think outside of the box, use your imagination and think of a new idea for this project or during this project? Explain.
3. Did you think of a new way to do things when you got stuck? Did you solve the problem on your own or with the help of your teacher/peers?
4. Did you learn a lot about a new subject?
5. What did you learn about yourself in the process?
6. What would you do differently next time?
7. What ideas do you have for your next project?