

**Wisdom begins in
wonder.**



Socrates

So how do we foster curiosity?

- View learning and life as an experiment where we grow, learn & innovate by working on something, making mistakes and trying again (&again...)
- Celebrate the questioning and the learning rather than the knowing.
- Build in time every day for kids to experiment, explore and investigate.
- Model your own curiosity every day and show that you care about finding answers.

What does the research say?

Researchers have found that at home three year olds ask parents about 26 questions per hour and engage in curiosity sequences as early as two and a half years of age where their questions are linked inquiries involving follow up questions and comments.

In kindergarten, however, the number of curiosity episodes fall to one an hour and in fifth grade less than that. Researchers conclude that many children spend hours a day in school without asking a single question.
(Harris 2013, Engel 2011 Chouinard 2007)

"We don't grow into
creativity, we grow
out of it. Or rather, we
get educated out of it."

Sir Ken Robinson

Curiosity is the engine that drives
achievement.



Kids will take a chance if they don't know the answer. They are not afraid of being wrong. If you are not prepared for being wrong you will never come up with anything original.

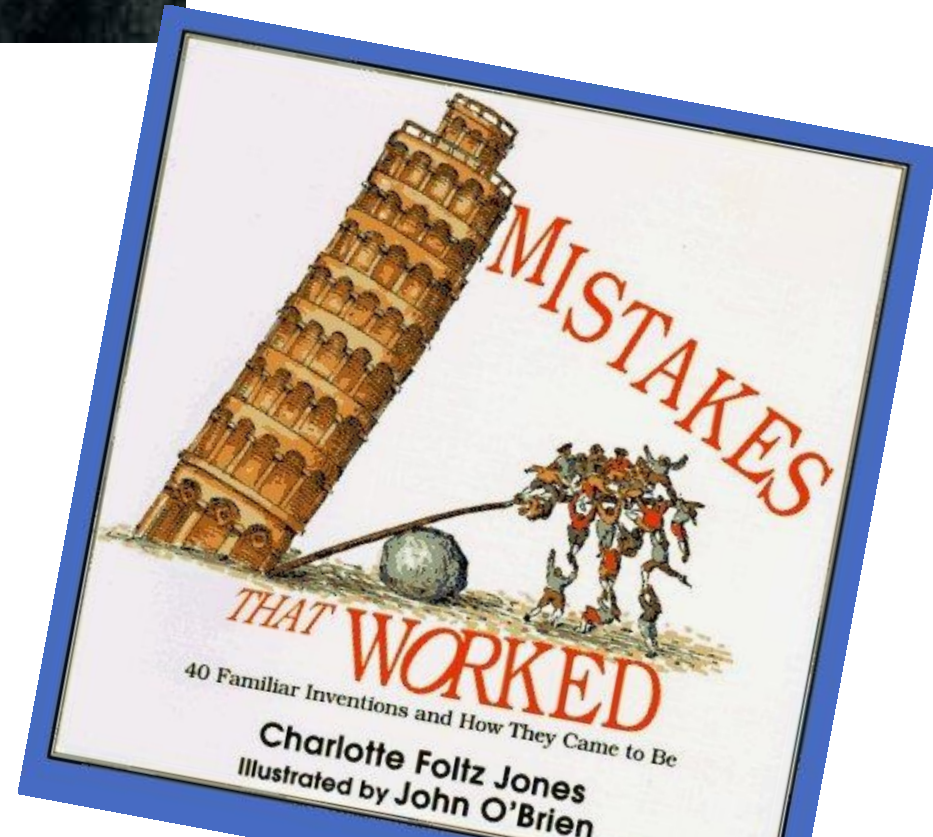
In schools we stigmatize mistakes rather than value them. We now run educational systems where mistakes are the worst things you can make.



Columbus



**Many great
successes started
out as failures.**



Failing to Succeed Tips

5 things that kids *must* believe and adults *must* communicate to create a culture in which failure is not only respected, but encouraged:

- 1. Celebrate the questioning and learning rather than merely the knowing**
- 2. Share your own failures to create a trusting culture where kids can admit to, or even brag a bit about failures they have had where they tried something innovative that did not succeed. Make these into learning experiences.**
- 3. Recognize – and communicate – that when you give kids freedom to succeed, you also must give them the freedom to fail.**
- 4. Distinguish between two kinds of failure:**
 - Honest failure: an honest attempt at something new or different has been tried unsuccessfully and**
 - Passive failure: Failing for lack of effort**
- 5. Celebrate honest failures.**

It's not -- The more we learn,
the more we know.

But rather -- The more we learn,
the more we wonder!

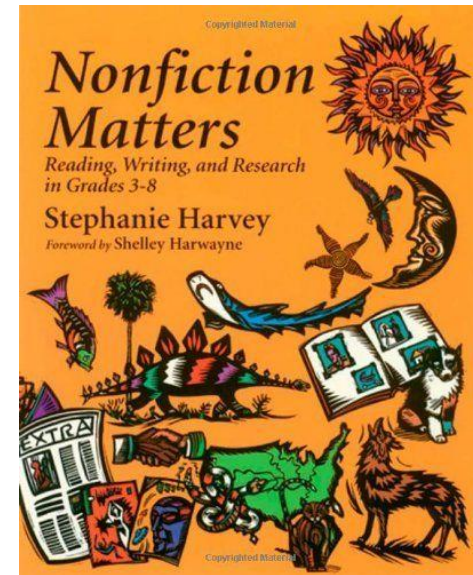
I used to think _____ but now I think _____

Before I read this, I thought ___, but now I learned _____

I'm changing my thinking in light of new evidence.

15-20% of Time in the Classroom

14,256 Hours in School
between Kindergarten and
Graduation

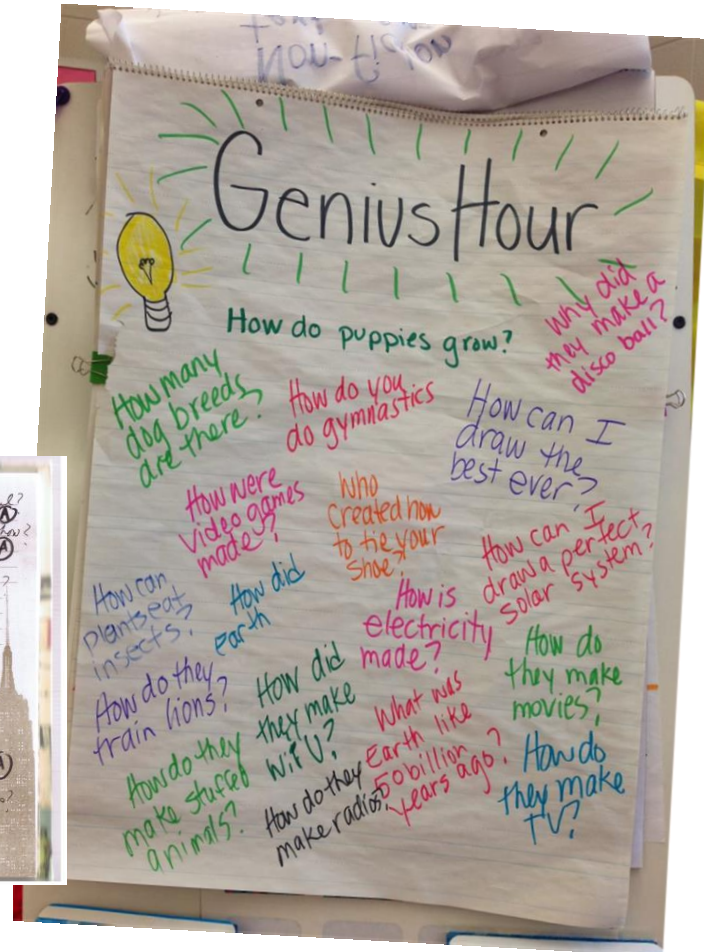
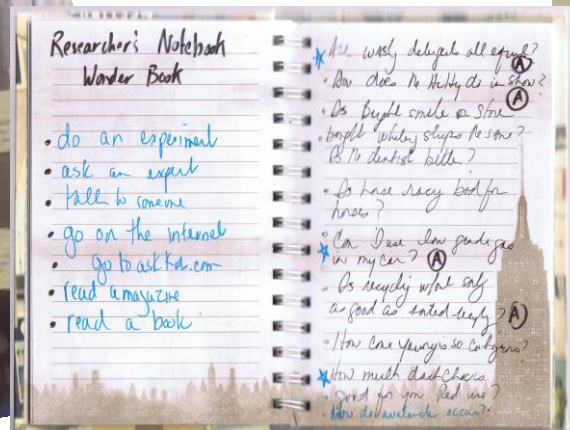


Spend just 15-20% time on topics kids choose
and want to know more about.

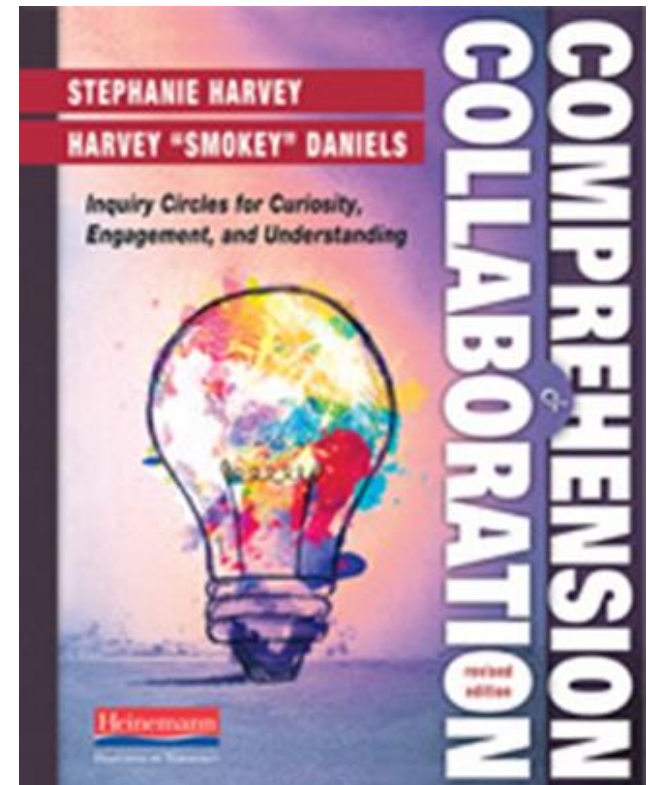
Build in time to wonder

Genius Hour, Wonder Walls,
Wonder Books, Wonder Boxes

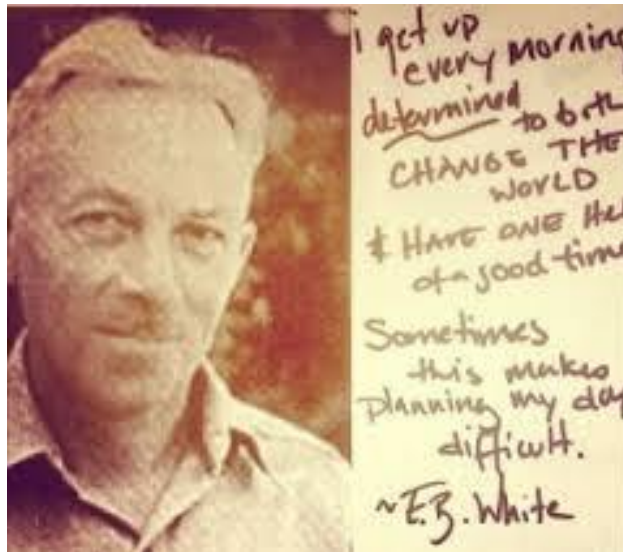
- Time
- Ownership
- Research



Engage kids in
“Open Inquiry”
where they choose a
curiosity they are
interested in and
investigate it.



Always be on the lookout
for the presence of wonder



E.B. White

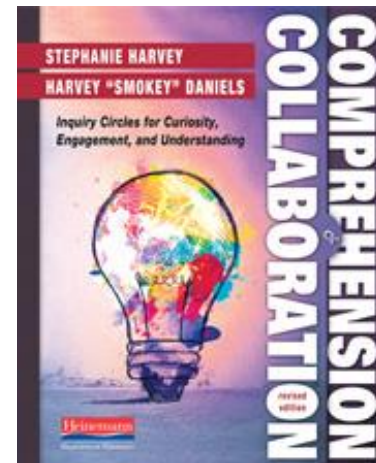
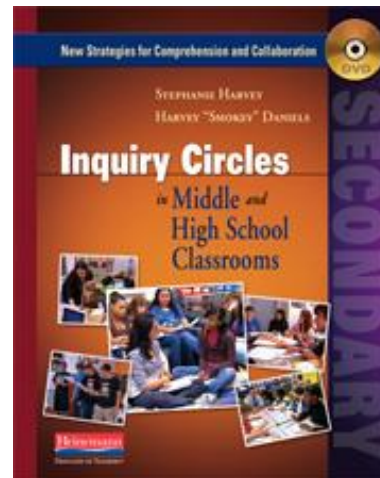
@STEPHHARVEY49



"... Smart is not something you are, smart is something you get. And you get smart by reading, writing, drawing, talking, listening and investigating."

Stephanie Harvey

Celebrate Curiosity!



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