

# Future Ready Passport: Expeditions



## Lesson Plan

Learning Format: Blended Learning    Pathway: Information Technology    Duration: Variable

### Lesson Overview

Tech Expeditions inspire learners to explore technology as a potential career pathway no matter their designated academy pathway. Learners use NAF Future Ready Passport to join the following expeditions:

### Lesson Objectives

#### Learners will:

Exercise voice and choice in their learning by embarking on a self-selected expedition to demonstrate their content mastery and skills by transferring their knowledge to create a tangible product.



[Cryptocurrency & Blockchain](#)



[UX Design: From Idea to Launch](#)



[Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality](#)



[Creative Coding](#)

The tech expeditions translate to passion projects that showcase learners' interest and enthusiasm about what real-world problem they want to solve. The Genius Hour concept started at Google, where staff could spend 20% of their time working on passion projects that they wanted to explore. Google credited this unleashing of creativity for 50% of their product lines, such as Gmail and Google News. Author Daniel Pink, the author of *A Whole New Mind*, also detailed how companies successfully implemented Google-time projects.

Passion projects, particularly in STEM fields, enhance college applications by demonstrating the applicants' content knowledge and transferable skills such as creativity, initiative, leadership, and curiosity to impact their college-admission.

### Teacher Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the concepts of Passion Projects (aka Genius Hour) by reviewing:

- ✓ [Genius Hour](#)
- ✓ [How Genius Hour Helps Kids Connect What They're Learning in School to Their Future Goals](#)
- ✓ [How a Passion Project Can Help Your Child Get into their Dream College \[Share with parents\]](#)

A significant consideration is pairing learners with industry mentors to support their expeditions. An excellent place to start is reaching out to the academy advisory board or a local postsecondary partner. The mentors' total time to work with the learners varies; however, it could be as little as an hour or two per month throughout the expedition.

### Whole Group/Class

#### Icebreaker Discussion & Activity:

- Ask learners if they ever heard about the Genius Hour at Google.
- Provide an overview of the concept and ask them how they would like to work at a place that allows their employees to spend 20% of their time working on their passion projects.

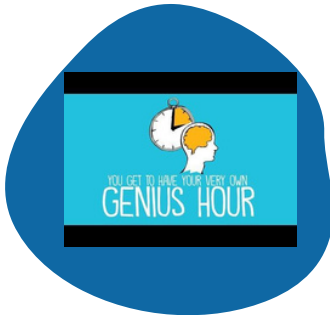
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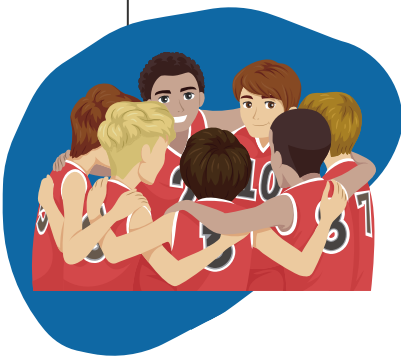
### Play the Genius Hour Video

The 1:43 minute video explains the concept behind Genius Hour and how to launch a Genius Hour. Watch [here](#).



### Provide learners with the parameters for the Expedition/Passion Project.

A sample rubric can be found [here - 20% Time Grading Rubric](#).



### Learner Assignment

Instruct learners to:

- Download the "Staff Pick Resource."
- Read the articles posted in the "For Learners" Tab.
- Select one of the [Future Ready Passport: Expeditions](#) or choose another pathway better aligned to their passion or interests.