

# **Reviews Say:**

Empowering, Entertaining, and Perfectly Designed for Tweens & Teens! "Activate Your Genius Mode is a creative powerhouse of a book that speaks directly to young minds in a way that's equal parts hilarious, encouraging, and deeply practical.

YOU NEED THIS BOOK! I feel this book will enable me to explain and get them to not be so afraid of giving a "dumb" answer... I loved this book and can NOT wait to use it in my classroom in just a few weeks!!"

John Hattie's research of educational practices shows Creativity Programs and Problem-Solving Programs can increase learning by more than one year per academic school year! Perfect for a method that can be applied to any subject.

### Is smart something you're born with?

Genius isn't a birthright. It's a habit you can train.

Activate Your Genius Mode shows teens and tweens (and the adults who guide them) how to turn creativity from something you wait for into something you can do on demand. Drawing on brain science and proven psychology, this fast, practical guide teaches the three core skills every creative thinker masters:

- Divergent thinking to generate bold options
- Convergent thinking to choose the best ones
- · Planning to turn ideas into real results

#### Inside you'll find:

- A 30-day Creativity Bootcamp with bite-sized daily reps
- The Creative Problem-Solving (CPS) process, used by psychologists and innovators to get reliable ideas fast
- Activities, worksheets, and stories that make the science stick—and the practice fun
- Additional online free resources only for those who purchase the book, including printables, videos, lesson plans, and more.

You'll walk away able to beat blocks, make better decisions, and ship your best ideas—whether you're a student, teacher, parent, or professional problem-solver.

Creativity isn't something you're born with. It's something you build.

Open the book. Flip the switch. Activate your genius mode.

# WHY PRACTICE DUMB DEAS ONLY?



### Eliminates Social Pressure

Your ideas will be less novel and original if you are under social pressure to be "right." How can you be "right" when there is no right answer? **Deferring Judgement** is a skill that needs to be **taught** and **practiced**, which you can do by sharing only dumb ideas.



### Practice the Power of "Yet."

All promising ideas come with problems. No ideas are born perfect. When ideating for real, students need to learn to look for **promising but imperfect** ideas, and then to solve those problems **later.** Dumb Ideas helps us learn to consider all ideas, even when they may have problems.



## Fluency, Flexibility, Originality

Idea generation is measured in **fluency**, **flexibility**, and **originality**. Generating Dumb Ideas is a teaching opportunity to help students learn to increase all three areas without the stakes of a real-life problem.

**To do this really well:** Understand the neuroscience behind convergent thinking and divergent thinking, and how the neural networks involved in fitting in inhibit divergent thinking. When students learn and **practice** the problem-solving **systems** in <u>Activate your Genius Mode</u>, they become better **innovators**, **collaborators**, and **problem-solvers**.

Learn to Activate your Genius Mode at www.DavidDWriter.com/GeniusMode



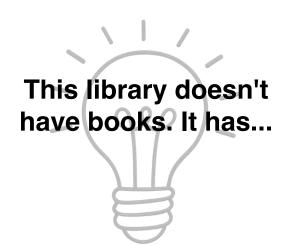
How can we benefit from a donation of 1 million ping pong balls?

From **Activate Your Genius Mode**, www.DavidDWriter.com/GeniusMode

How can we benefit from a donation of one thousand left-handed gloves?

From **Activate Your Genius Mode**, www.DavidDWriter.com/GeniusMode

How could we use a car if it didn't have wheels?



How can we use a bowling ball, besides bowling?

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We don't do school in a school. We do it in a...

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Subjects you would like to see in school that we don't already have.

How can we survive one week if gravity suddenly stops working?

From Activate Your Genius Mode, www.DavidDWriter.com/GeniusMode

How could we use 5,000 rubber ducks to improve society?

From **Activate Your Genius Mode**, www.DavidDWriter.com/GeniusMode

If pencils were outlawed, what would we write with instead?

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How would we cook a meal if ovens, microwaves, and stoves were all banned?

If our mascot was a potato, what traditions would we invent?

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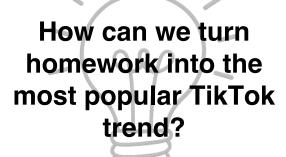
How can we power the school using only bubblegum?

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How could we host the Olympics inside a classroom?

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If desks were alive, what would they complain about?



How can we teach science using only spaghetti?

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If backpacks were banned, how would students carry their stuff?

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How could we run a zoo with no animals?



If a hotdog isn't food, what is it?

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How could we take attendance without using names?

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How could we build a roller coaster using only classroom supplies?

If teachers had to sing every lesson, what songs would they use?

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How could we play football without a ball?

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If lunch was cooked by students every day, what would the menu look like?

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How could we replace gym class with something completely ridiculous?

If classrooms floated in the sky, how would students get to them?

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How can we keep students awake in class using only pigeons?

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If Wi-Fi disappeared forever, how would we use the internet?

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How could we win a war against squirrels?

What would happen if erasers erased memories instead of pencil marks?

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How could we grade papers without numbers or letters?

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If chairs were banned, what would we sit on?

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How can we make math class fun using only bananas?

How could we redesign school hallways to be more like a water park?

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If textbooks were edible, what flavors should they come in?

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How could we turn every fire drill into a party?

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If teachers had to ride scooters everywhere, how would that change school?

How could we teach geography using only pizza boxes?

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If recess was on the moon, what new games would kids invent?

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How could we convince aliens to enroll in our school?

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If every subject was taught underwater, what would we need to survive?

How can we keep school safe from a stampede of hippos?

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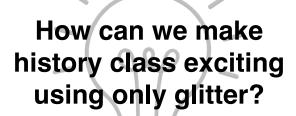
If students were the teachers, what punishments would they invent?

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How could we run a graduation ceremony in a submarine?

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If lockers talked, what secrets would they spill?



If the principal was replaced by a giant robot, what new rules would it make?