

GENIUS MODE RESEARCH

HOW TO PRACTICE CREATIVITY IN THEATRE

From Thinking on Stage: Exploring Possibilities for the Creative Process in Theater Education by Thalia R. Goldstein

Journal of Creative Behavior, April, 2025

<https://doi.org/10.1002/jocb.70019>

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

What theatrical activities lead to growth in creative thinking skills that can be applied outside of the theater space?



KEY TAKEAWAYS



- Improv games lead to higher uncertainty tolerance.
- The Eight Theatrical Habits of Mind have direct connections to the steps in the Creative Thinking Process - Problem Identification, Incubation, Illumination, Verification.
- Students can be introduced to creative problem-solving concepts in theatre and then apply those skills elsewhere.

DOS AND DON'TS

DO take time to make explicit connections to the world outside the theater classroom.

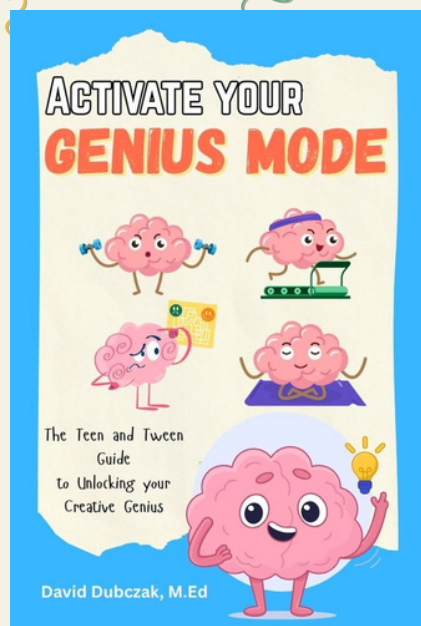
DO encourage play and playful activities, as they help students explore the problem space and make connections.



GENIUS MODE CONNECTIONS



Curiosity and **deferred judgement** are important skills to practice to a creative problem-solver. We explain the **science** between why deferring judgement is both **important** and **hard**, and provide breakthrough activities on how to acquire these skills. We also provide **structured activities** by which students can **collaborate** with these skills outside of the theatrical context.



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.

Buy at www.DavidDWriter.com/GeniusMode