



Islands of Genius PBL Activities to Consider

- 1) Identify prodigies and Savants throughout history and develop character biographies about their islands of genius, the lives of these individuals, the way in which people of their time regarded them and how history has remembered them.
- 2) Identify living prodigies or Savants through research, reach out to one, develop a character biography of one of these individuals and their island of genius—celebrate the island but also the person.
- 3) Hold an event/program for parents and the community. Display the character biographies on presentation boards, through videos, along with oral presentations about the brain/intelligence and learning. Determine if any prodigies or Savants live in your area and invite them in celebration of their gifts. Share this learning with other classes, the entire school, schools within and outside the District. Create a film/documentary for other students to learn and explore further and deeper the wonders of the brain and these talented human treasures.
- 4) Create and perform a play to demonstrate the challenges that these special people, and others with disabilities face personally, socially and publicly.
- 5) Reflect on what was learned and how this information can help us to have greater humility, tolerance for those who are different than we are (whether culturally, physically or emotionally) and for those who have different beliefs or opinions than we do.

