

# Einstein musical

## What a genius!

By MARY BETH BISHOP  
For News for Kids

**A**re you clumsy or always running late? Do you get lots of grief from other kids — or maybe even your teacher?

That doesn't mean you're not smart or even that you won't grow up to be a world-famous genius!

One 12-year-old kid had all these problems, but none stopped him from growing up to do great things. His name was Albert Einstein.

A new musical play at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta takes a fun look at the Nobel Prize winner. It has a funny name: "Einstein Is a Dummy."

Do you think that you or someone you know might be famous one day?

Here is what psychologists think lots of creative geniuses have in common:

- They have a childlike view of life.
- They can get completely absorbed in their work.
- Their talent often shows up early. Mozart wrote his first piece of music when he was just 5 years old!

We got this informa-

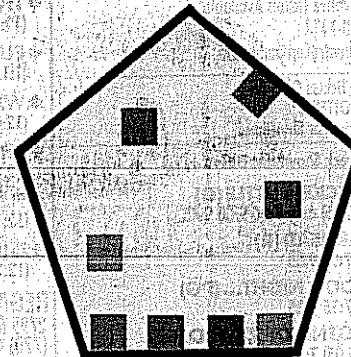
tion from a book called "How Bright Is Your Brain?" by Michael A. DiSpezio (Sterling, \$14.95). It has lots of games and tests that show how our brains work to come up with our sometimes silly, sometime brilliant ideas.



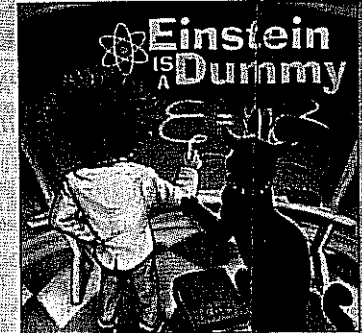
Illustration by Catherine Laary

Would you like to think more like a genius? There are lots of ways to help yourself come up with creative ideas: a walk, perhaps, or listening to music. Beethoven would dump ice water on his head before he sat down to work!

Creative people think about doing things in unexpected ways. Here is an exercise from the book to help you think creatively: In the pentagon below, draw lines that connect each pair of matching colored squares. But you are not allowed to cross any lines or draw outside the pentagon or go through any of the non-matching color blocks.



SOLUTION BELOW



Alliance Children's Theatre

### If you go

"Einstein Is a Dummy" is the world premier of a musical play by Karen Zacarias, a writer who graduated from former Henlerson High School in Chamblee. If you go, you'll also get to see award-winning science projects by local kids.

Shows are at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through Nov. 20 on the Hertz stage of the Alliance Theatre, 1210 Peachtree St. NE. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for kids 14 and under.

If you'd like to go, have your parents call 404-733-5000.

### Einstein as a kid: Bet you didn't know...

- Einstein didn't study math until he was 12 years old.
- He taught calculus to himself.
- He was expelled from high school for playing a practical joke!