

**Dr. Paul Sereno**

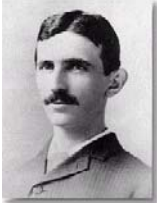
"Accident-Prone Imp Evolved Into Extraordinary Fossil Hunter"

"He was considered a poor student. 'I wasn't reading in second grade,' he said. 'I couldn't tell time in third grade, and I nearly flunked sixth grade.' He was also incorrigibly mischievous and accident-prone. Twice he was rendered unconscious in gym class mishaps." His interest in fossils started after he stole a book from the library. After a trip to the Museum of Natural History, he "became fascinated with stories of paleontological expeditions." Since then, he's led all sorts of expeditions and developed creative theories on how the dinosaurs are related to each other.



**Winston Churchill**

Winston, meanwhile, said the master at St. George's, "began well but latterly has been very naughty! On the whole he has made progress . . . though at times he is still troublesome." His composition was "very variable" and once again, history was his best subject. Winston was showing improvement in his academic subjects but his conduct was deteriorating. The Headmaster reported:  
"He is a constant trouble to everybody and is always in some scrape or other. He cannot be trusted to behave himself anywhere."



**Nikola Tesla** was also constantly into trouble as a child. He possessed the spatial ability to visualize his inventions in incredible detail before they were built and could even identify parts which would fail by picturing the invention *at work*.

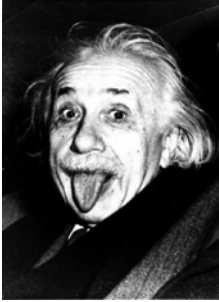


Maya Angelou When Angelou was seven, she experienced a tragedy that rendered her mute for five years. She gave birth at 16 to her only child, Guy Johnson. To support herself and her son she took a variety of odd jobs, some were not exactly mainstream. Maya is fluent in 7 languages, has received 50 or more honorary degrees, taught modern dance at The Rome Opera House and The Hambina Theatre in Tel Aviv, was awarded lifetime membership to the National Women's Hall of Fame in 2002, and was named by *Writer's Digest* in 1999, as one of the top 100 best writers of the 20th Century. She is a powerful role-model, outstanding poet and eloquent speaker.



**James Clerk Maxwell**

One of the fathers of modern physics and a pioneer in electro physics. *At school he was at first regarded as shy and rather dull. he made no friendships and spent his occasional holidays in reading old ballads, drawing curious diagrams and making rude mechanical models. This absorption in such pursuits, totally unintelligible to his schoolfellows, who were then totally ignorant of mathematics, procured him a not very complimentary nickname*



**Albert Einstein** had trouble in school. It was only after a relative showed him how to play games with numbers and Albert was moved to an alternative school that he began to do well. Still, he described himself as a 'slow thinker' and was spatially oriented with verbal difficulties. The man who gave us the *Theory of Relativity* needed help from a mathematician to translate his theories into formulas. He had severe reading, writing and math problems. This brilliant mind kept multiplication tables on his blackboard for reference -- he never was able to memorize them.



**Thomas Edison** was constantly into trouble as child and was nearly expelled from public school because he was 'addled'. In school he fidgeted, asked too many questions, or didn't pay attention. His mother withdrew him and he was homeschooled. In his early teens he left home, beginning a series of countless jobs, some of which he was fired from. His inventions are legendary.



**John Lennon:** Saying that Lennon was a poor student is being kind. He suffered from severe reading problems before switching to art school -- and then transforming popular music and culture.



**Helen Keller** At the age of 19 months, Helen lost her sight and hearing as a result of a fever. Helen proved to be a remarkable scholar, graduating with honors from Radcliffe College in 1904. In 1932 she became a vice-president of the Royal National Institute for the Blind in the United Kingdom. She authored 14 publications.