



Smart People are Cool.™



FOCUS' STORY

Robert Mahner owns an international watch manufacturing company called "On Time". He started designing his own watches when he was in grade school. Every year when the science projects were due, everyone knew that Robert's project would somehow be related to making watches. He was so skilled that he won every science fair contest except for one, because he ate some bad school cafeteria food and wasn't able to make the contest scheduled for that afternoon. Robert was a focused child and his hard work and passion for watch making have made him an extremely successful businessman.

His passion for being focused began as a child when a friend of his named Marcus invited some friends over to play board games. Marcus resented time management because his parents forced him to be too time conscious. The board game they played was imported from Egypt, and the sand from the hourglass came from the ancient pyramids. Unfortunately, the sand was infected with an old Egyptian Time Curse that was given to those who wasted their time building the pyramids. Since Marcus didn't place a high value on time and broke the hourglass, he was infected with the curse and turned him into a ninety-six year old man right before Robert's eyes. Robert feared that this would happen to him so he began to focus on managing his time.

Robert and Marcus were friends until one day when Marcus was delivering a pizza to Robert's shop. Marcus informed Robert that he joined a team of villains called **THE UNTEACHABLES** and was going to be known as the **TIMETAKER** to seek revenge on students for the curse that he had been given. Robert could not bear the thought of his friend ruining the lives of students, so he contacted **SMARTY MARTY** and asked if he could join the **S.M.A.R.T.S. FORCE** and battle **TIMETAKER**. **SMARTY MARTY** welcomed him to the team and gave him the name **FOCUS** because poor time management is usually caused by an inability to focus on a project for a reasonable amount of time.

FOCUS called the best engineers in the world to help him create the best **TIMETAKER** fighting tools imaginable. Together they created the "T.V. EyePiece," the "Clock Cape," and the "One-Minute Manager". The T.V. EyePiece, which stands for Tunnel Vision EyePiece, is equipped with a special lens that blocks outside distractions allowing the mind to completely focus on a project until it is complete. **FOCUS** knows that distractions are one of the main problems when it comes to time management. The Clock Cape is specially engineered cape to shield students' vision from the **TIMETAKER'S** Time Funnel and the their ears from the sound of his Tick-Talker Voice and Umbrella. This cape can be attached to any t-shirt so it can be worn at all times. The clock design is a reminder that we only have twenty-four hours in a day. The One-Minute Manager is a personal robot that serves as a digital reminder of projects that need to be finished. **FOCUS** simply talks to his robot about the tasks he has to do for the day and the robot reminds him about them until they are complete. Since **FOCUS** owns a watch manufacturing plant in Las Vegas, Nevada, he made these tools available to all students as they fight **TIMETAKER**.

Although **TIMETAKER** and **FOCUS** were once friends, they are now rival enemies. They both understand that it is impossible to be friends because they have totally opposite agendas. Don't deceive yourself into thinking that it is possible to be friends with both of them. You have to make a decision about whom you are going to allow to influence you. **TIMETAKER** can be very convincing because many students believe that time management is not important. However, if you give **FOCUS** a chance, he will prove that you can accomplish so much more with just a little bit of focus. Join the **S.M.A.R.T.S. FORCE** and help me defeat **TIMETAKER**. Remember, smart people are cool!

FOCUS' TACTICS AND TOOLS

T.V. EYEPIECE promotes tunnel vision by blocking out distractions and focusing the mind to complete a task.

CLOCK CAPE attaches to any t-shirt and is used to shield students from **TIMETAKER'S** Time Funnel, Tick-Talker Voice and Umbrella.

ONE-MINUTE MANAGER is a personal robot that serves as a digital reminder of projects that need to be finished.

If you are using the DVD/Workbook program in your school or for your family, you may read the stories as a way to set up each section.

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