The Real Rain Man – Extraordinary People

Laurence Kim Peek (November 11, 1951 – December 19, 2009) was an American savant. Known as a "megasavant", he had an exceptional memory, but he also experienced social difficulties, possibly resulting from a developmental disability related to brain abnormalities. He was the inspiration for the character of Raymond Babbitt, played by Dustin Hoffman in the movie Rain Man.

1. List 2 things different people compare Kim Peek to:
   a) a living Google
   b) the dark side of the Moon
2. What was Kim’s early diagnosis?
   Mentally retarded
3. How has Rainman influenced Kim’s life?
   It made it possible for Kim to look into a person’s eyes
4. What did the neurologist tell Kim’s parents when the boy was 9 months old? Kim will never be able to walk, learn, he should be put in the institution and forgotten about.
5. How long was Kim supposed to live? About 14 years.
6. What did Kim’s dad promise to Dustin Hoffman?
   To share him with the world.
7. How do people want to test Kim’s genius?
   By asking obscure questions.
8. What’s the price of Kim’s gift?
   Sometimes it is hard to understand him and hard to manage him.
9. Why is this year important for the Peeks? What’s their mission?
   Kim’s dad is about to turn 80, the age only one other person in the family has reached. Their mission is to find out everything they can about Kim’s brain.