

Gifted Curriculum for Grades K-8

KINDERGARTEN

Gifted Services teachers provide opportunities for the whole class to experience thinking skills using an enrichment and diagnostic approach called Primary Education Thinking Skills (PETS). Among the concepts addressed in Kindergarten are deductive, convergent, divergent, evaluative, creative, inventive and analytical thinking; thinking by comparing and contrasting and using analogies; analyzing patterns; and collecting factual information. Students will continue to develop these skills in first grade.

GRADE 1

Gifted Services teachers provide opportunities for the whole class to experience and further develop thinking skills they were introduced to in Kindergarten using an enrichment and diagnostic approach called Primary Education Thinking Skills (PETS). Major learning themes are: deductive logic, analytical convergent, critical and inventive thinking; decoding, visual thinking, creative problem solving and creating and applying criterion questions.

GRADE 2

Gifted Services teachers provide opportunities for the whole class to experience and develop thinking skills using an enrichment and diagnostic approach called Primary Education Thinking Skills (PETS). Major learning themes are: Review

convergent thinking skills and introduce problem solving strategies. Reinforce the concepts of deductive logic using an elimination grid. Introduce students to a complex system of deductive logic using a double matrix logic elimination grid. Practice deductive logic in other formats. Practice divergent thinking skills in problem solving. Provide opportunities for solving visual problems using maps.

GRADE 3

Gifted Services teachers provide curricular extensions to identified students, based on the College of William and Mary gifted program called "Journeys and Destinations." In this inquiry-based approach, students investigate literature in an interdisciplinary, multicultural program that includes vocabulary development, written and oral communication, research and reasoning. Students develop analytical and interpretive skills, persuasive writing skills and linguistic competence as they explore a range of texts and writing projects. In Math, students strive for deeper understanding of and proficiency with Math concepts. The Gifted Math curriculum is being further developed to align with and extend the District curriculum.

GRADE 4

Gifted Services teachers provide curricular extensions to identified students using The College of William and Mary gifted

curriculum “Literary Reflections.” In Math, “Connected Math” curriculum is used. The focus is enhancing reading comprehension and analysis, as well as grammar, vocabulary, reasoning and research. Written, oral, listening, linguistic and interpretive skills are stressed. In Math, students strive for deep understanding of important Math ideas and developing proficient reasoning and communication. Students study number theory, fractions, decimals, percents, geometry and data collection and statistics.

GRADE 5

Gifted Services teachers provide curricular extensions in Literacy and Math to identified students. The College of William and Mary gifted curriculum “Patterns of Change” introduces important approaches and ideas of literary criticism, dealing with cycles in nature, knowledge, history and human life. The “Connected Math” curriculum offers deep understanding of important math ideas through a sequence of lessons that help students develop proficient reasoning and communication in mathematics.

GRADE 6

Gifted Services teachers provide curricular extensions in Literacy and Math to identified students. In Literacy, teachers use the College of William and Mary gifted curriculum “Autobiographies” to help students study the concept of change. Students examine literature and works of art from various cultures through autobiographies and self-portraits in order to probe issues of identity. Students will

develop analytical and interpretive skills, persuasive writing skills, linguistic competency, and reasoning skills. In Math, students study pre-algebra, including percentages and fractions, equations and inequalities, algebraic properties and basic geometry.

GRADE 7

Gifted Services teachers provide curricular extensions to identified students. In Literacy, the College of William and Mary gifted curriculum “Persuasion” frames the basis for exploring the reasoning process through analysis and interpretation of selected passages of literature. Persuasive writing, reasoning, research, and language study opportunities are offered as students study the issue of censorship, elements of persuasion, perspective and points of view. In Math, students will study Algebra, including equations and inequalities; solve and graph linear equations; multiply, simplify and factor polynomials and learn how algebraic concepts apply to other areas of mathematics.

GRADE 8

Gifted Services teachers provide curricular extensions in Literacy and Math to identified students. In Literacy, the College of William and Mary gifted curriculum “A Decade of Change,” paired with “Threads of Change” helps students explore historical events and social issues through literature, including five historical movements. Students develop persuasive writing skills, linguistic competency and reasoning skills as well as conduct research. In Math,

students pursue the Glenbard West High School Geometry curriculum.