



Welcome to the MES Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Program!

OPEN HOUSE
WEDNESDAY, September 4, 2019



Today's Agenda:

- Welcome & Introductions
- The Purpose of the GATE program
- GATE Standards
- Units
- Q & A

What does a gifted child look like?

Bright Child

- x Enjoys peers
- x Grasps the meaning
- x Completes assignments
- x Is receptive
- x Copies accurately
- x Enjoys school
- x Absorbs information
- x Is a technician
- x Is a good memorizer
- x Enjoys straightforward sequential presentation
- x Is alert
- x Is pleased with own learning

VS

Gifted Learner

- x Prefers Adults
- x Draws inferences
- x Initiates projects
- x Is intense
- x Creates a new design
- x Enjoys learning
- x Manipulates information
- x Is an inventor
- x Is a good guesser
- x Enjoys complexity
- x Is keenly observant
- x Is highly self critical

Reproduced with kind permission of Carol Fertig & Prufrock Press Raising a Gifted Child: A Parenting Success Handbook

What makes a child gifted
and talented may not always
be good grades in school,
but a different way of
looking at the world and
learning.

-Chuck Grassley

snapchamp



So, what is the purpose of
a gifted program?

Gifted Kids
don't need
MORE
work,
they need **MORE**
MEANINGFUL
work.

– Miss Giraffe

APS Gifted Program Standards:



1. Advanced Communication Skills
2. Creativity
3. Creative Problem Solving
4. Global Citizenship
5. Higher Order Thinking Skills
6. Leadership
7. Advanced Research Skills
8. Social Emotional Learning

MES Gifted Model

1st – 5th

Full Day Resource Model

Each grade level has an assigned day of the week during which identified students attend gifted classes for the entire day (with the exception of lunch, recess, and specials).

Students in Grade 1

Students in grades 1 will be taught by Jennifer Moore. They will have two units, one per semester.

Teams



Students in grades 2 and 3 will switch once this year to one other teacher based on the following schedule.

<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>2nd Semester</u>
Hatcher	Cherry
Cherry	Duncan
Duncan	Hatcher

Teams

Students in grades 4 and 5 will switch once this year to the other teacher on their team.

Team #1 - Cindy Cherry &
Richard Hatcher

Team #2 - Jennifer Moore &
Kristen Duncan

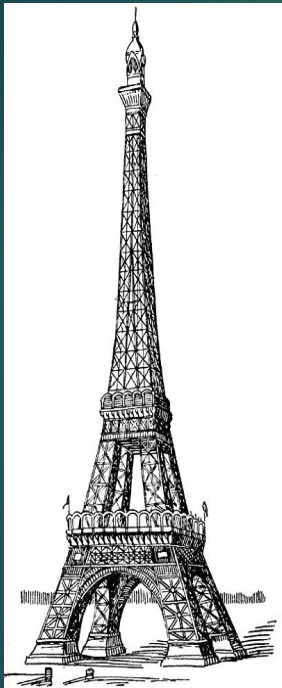
2019-2020 Schedule

- ▶ **1st Grade:** Monday, Wednesday, or Friday
- ▶ **2nd Grade:** Friday
- ▶ **3rd Grade:** Monday
- ▶ **4th Grade:** Tuesday
- ▶ **5th Grade:** Thursday

Units of Study 2019-2020

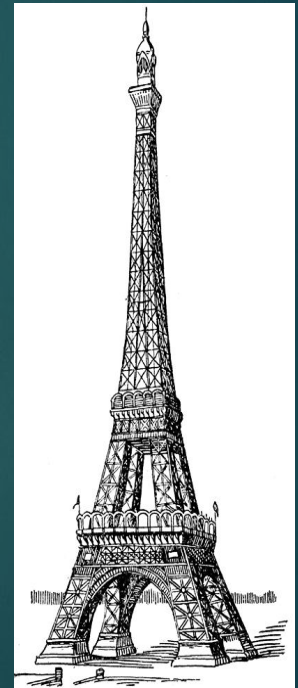


2nd Grade/Mr. Hatcher



Monumental Architecture!

Through the engineering process of design, build, test & re-build, students will gain an understanding of how monumental structures are constructed and how they fail!



3rd Grade/Mr. Hatcher



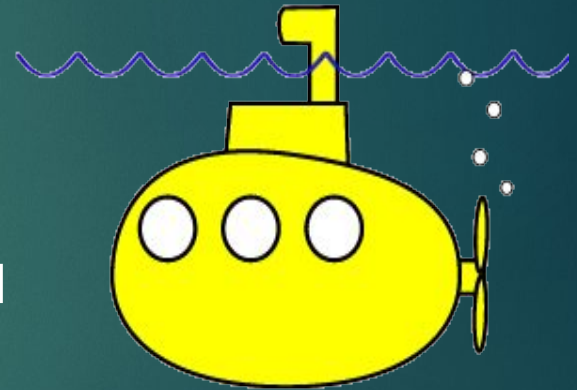
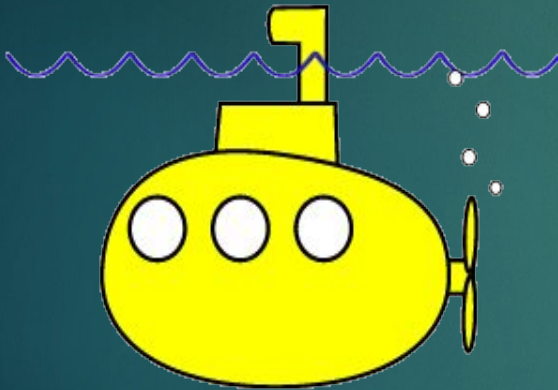
The Green City!

Students will gain an understanding of how energy systems work. What is energy? How is it produced? How does energy consumption inform who we are as a society? These are just a few of the questions we will explore as we design and build “The Green City” in our classroom!

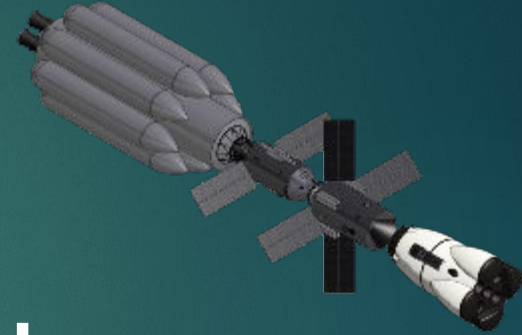
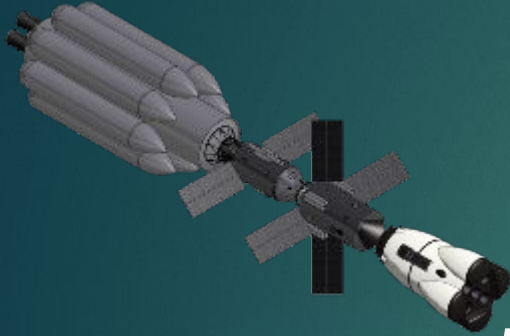
4th Grade/Mr. Hatcher

Water, Water, Everywhere....

Students will go deep,
exploring the amazing
properties of water and
it's value as a natural
resource on our planet.



5th Grade/Mr. Hatcher



Mission to Mars!

Space...the final frontier. Fifth grade students will embark on a journey to Mars. What spaceship technology will get us there and back? How will we survive when we arrive? What will we take to keep us happy on this long and tedious journey? How is this trip similar to human discovery throughout human history? The journey begins...

2nd Grade – Mrs. Cherry

“My Big Backyard”



My Big Backyard

Second grade students will explore how living things and nonliving things are interconnected. This multidisciplinary unit will begin with the study of Earth's major biomes. Students will learn how to classify animals by their similarities and differences. Students will explore how food chains and food webs are important to an animal's survival and surrounding ecosystems. The children will also spend time learning and researching the seven exciting "natural wonders" of Georgia- Stone Mountain, Amicalola Falls, Warm Springs, Radium Springs, Okefenokee Swamp, Tallulah Gorge, and Providence Canyon. As a culminating project, each 2nd grade student will have the opportunity to create Georgia's eighth Natural Wonder.

Your Voice Your Vote!

3rd Grade Unit



This 3rd grade GATE unit will focus on Political Science. The students will have the opportunity to explore the following topics:

- Defining Democracy in America
- History of Political Systems/Governments Around the World
- Birth of Democracy in the U.S. - The Charters of Freedom
- Electoral College System and how it used in our Presidential Election
- Political Parties
- Political Campaigns/Propaganda Techniques
- Who Can Run for President?
- Heroes of Democracy

Due to the timing of our unit, we will also pull in kid-friendly news articles and make connections to the upcoming presidential election.

4th Grade - Mrs. Cherry

“World’s Greatest Traveler”

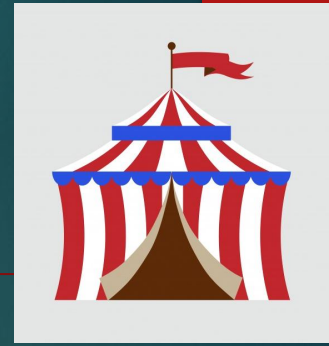


This is a 4th grade Social Studies unit designed to help students appreciate geography and culture around the World. The students will explore the various time zones in the United States. Students will also learn important map skills such as identifying major lines on a map-longitude and latitude, equator, tropics, prime meridian, and many more. Throughout the unit lessons, students will use data retrieval charts and graphic organizers, take notes, record information in journals, and share information learned through research projects and persuasive writing. 4th grade GATE students will also have the opportunity to travel around the world to explore Antarctica, Nepal, Australia, and Oman. As a culminating project, students will create their own travel slideshow using “Google Slides”.



1st Ms. Moore

"Ocean Commotion" & "Under the Big Top"



Fall

Students study the 4 major oceans of the world and the habitats they contain. We look into environmental issues, causes of problems and potential solutions. The curriculum especially helps students consider the impacts, both positive and negative, our human lifestyles have on marine life & the many ocean ecosystems.

Spring

"Under the Big Top" takes students on a learning quest with a circus as the metaphor for a well functioning community. This unit does examine the parts of an actual entertaining circus, its history & the function of *stage performance*. By using the circus as a metaphor for the concept of symbiosis among many & varied active parts of an organized, functional body, like a community, students are able to make unique connections and delve deeply into what makes a community sustainable and prosperous.



4th Ms. Moore

"Life Is a Balancing Act"

Unit Highlights:

- Students consider various definitions of "balance".
- Explore balance as it relates to topics such as: our government, math (accounting & algebra), nutrition, exercise, chemistry, etc.
- How balance impacts our daily lives in our schedules, getting rest, having a routine, etc.
- We also look at architecture and other ways balance is in visual art, music, buildings and poetry rhythms.



5th Ms. Moore

It's a Matter of Principle: A Look at Leadership

Unit Highlights:

- Through readings of non-fiction research and informational texts students will respond in writing and discussion, various ways a society is organized.
- Using information [students] research, class discussions and assignment will identify some ways that a society's beliefs and principles become established in a society or culture and how leadership is affected.
- Various projects using our team ChromeBooks will be assigned throughout the semester to allow students tools and access to key from our study.

Ms. Duncan's 2nd Grade Gifted Unit

Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes

Through investigation, experimentation, and research, students will explore such topics as:

- life cycle of living organisms
- properties of matter and chemical and physical changes
- trash, landfills, and recycling
- how weather, plants, animals, and humans cause changes to the environment



In addition, students will learn how to effectively communicate their new knowledge and scientific findings to others by using the scientific method. The unit will conclude with a project that gives each student an opportunity to educate others on an issue that concerns them and persuade them to take steps that will result in a positive change.

Ms. Duncan's 3rd Grade Gifted Unit

Sail America

Booking Voyages to Colonial America

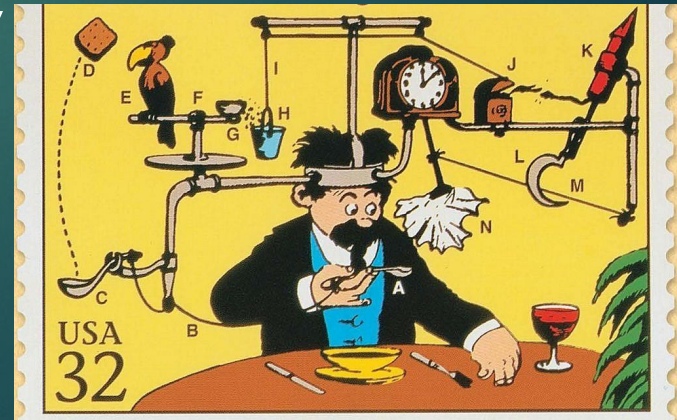
In this unit, students will learn about life in colonial America. They will start with a simulation of the first year at Plymouth Colony, “experiencing” the hardships of life in the New World and enabling them to make decisions and face consequences, just as the Pilgrims did 400 years ago. As the simulation continues, students will also be sharpening their research and organizational skills as they gather information about each colony's geography, climate, natural resources, economy, leaders, government, and Native American residents. With their firsthand knowledge of life in the colonies, students will become “travel agents,” creating promotional print and digital media for each colony with the goal of enticing as many clients as they can to settle in the New World!



Ms. Duncan's 4th Grade Gifted Unit

Mysterious Machine

In this unit, students will be involved in a simulation of solving a scientific mystery while learning about machines. A recently deceased inventor has left behind a mystery machine using the six simple machines. To figure out what the machine is and how it can be used, student teams will uncover clues by conducting scientific explorations and participating in group problem-solving sessions to learn about simple machines. They will be required to use the scientific method, keep careful notes, collect and graph data, and also effectively share their findings with the deceased inventor's family. Finally, to apply their newly found knowledge, they will take on the challenge of designing a machine that incorporates a variety of simple machines and makes a common task “easier.”



Ms. Cherry's & Ms. Duncan's 5th Grade Gifted Unit

The Science Behind Forensic Science

Have you ever wondered whether the forensic science you see on TV is anything like the real thing? In reality, solving a crime takes a lot longer than a 60-minute episode of CSI, and it takes science! How can you use science to solve a crime? There's no better way to find out than to roll up your sleeves and do it yourself, and in this unit that is exactly what we are going to do! Students will be engaged in a variety of lessons that will help them to understand the importance of science in solving modern day crimes. Lessons in this 5th grade GATE unit will include:

- introduction to forensic science
- the crime scene
- forensic science careers
- handwriting analysis and forgery
- impression evidence
- Mysteries in History - The Lindbergh case
- fingerprints
- eyewitness testimony
- DNA evidence



What about grades?



- Students do not receive traditional grades in GATE. Rubrics are sometimes provided to show how well a student met the expectations of an assignment or project.
- GATE progress reports are sent home twice a year, after each major unit of study.
- Progress reports address gifted goals. Most students will receive “D” for developing.
- Narrative comments will be included.
- Students are expected to maintain satisfactory performance in regular education and gifted classes. Unsatisfactory performance in either may result in probation.

Communication

- Email is best for quick Q and A:
 - rhatcher@atlanta.k12.ga.us
 - ccherry@atlanta.k12.ga.us
 - krduncan@atlanta.k12.ga.us
 - jennifer.moore@atlanta.k12.ga.us
- MES website, GATE page, and teacher pages have information
- APS website: departments > gifted and talented

Some Opportunities

- Duke TIP (4th and 5th grade only)
- STEAM Carnival (APS Office of Gifted and Talented)
- Chess Club
- ROBO-MES, First Lego League, Drones for the Good
- MES Junior Beta Club (4th & 5th only)
- GSU Saturday School
- Xanadu Summer Camp
- Travel Opportunities through the APS Office of Gifted and Talented: TBD

Check These Out!

- Hoagies Gifted Education Page

www.hoagiesgifted.org

- NAGC website www.nagc.org

- GAGC website www.gagc.org

- SENG website www.sengifted.org

- MindWare Games and Toys www.mindware.com

Food for thought. . .

“The natural trajectory of giftedness in childhood is not a six-figure salary, perfect happiness, and a guaranteed place in Who's Who.

It is the deepening of the personality, the strengthening of one's value system, the creation of greater and greater challenges for oneself, and the development of broader avenues for expressing compassion.”

—Linda Kreger Silverman, Ph.D.

Thank you for coming! You are welcome to visit your child's gifted classroom on your way out, but please note that this will not be an appropriate time for individual conferences, nor will any additional information be shared.

- ▶ Portable 1: Mr. Hatcher
- ▶ Portable 2: Ms. Cherry
- ▶ Portable 3: Ms. Duncan
- ▶ Portable 4: Ms. Moore