
Kindergarten Gifted & Talented Services

Characteristics, Referrals, Differentiation

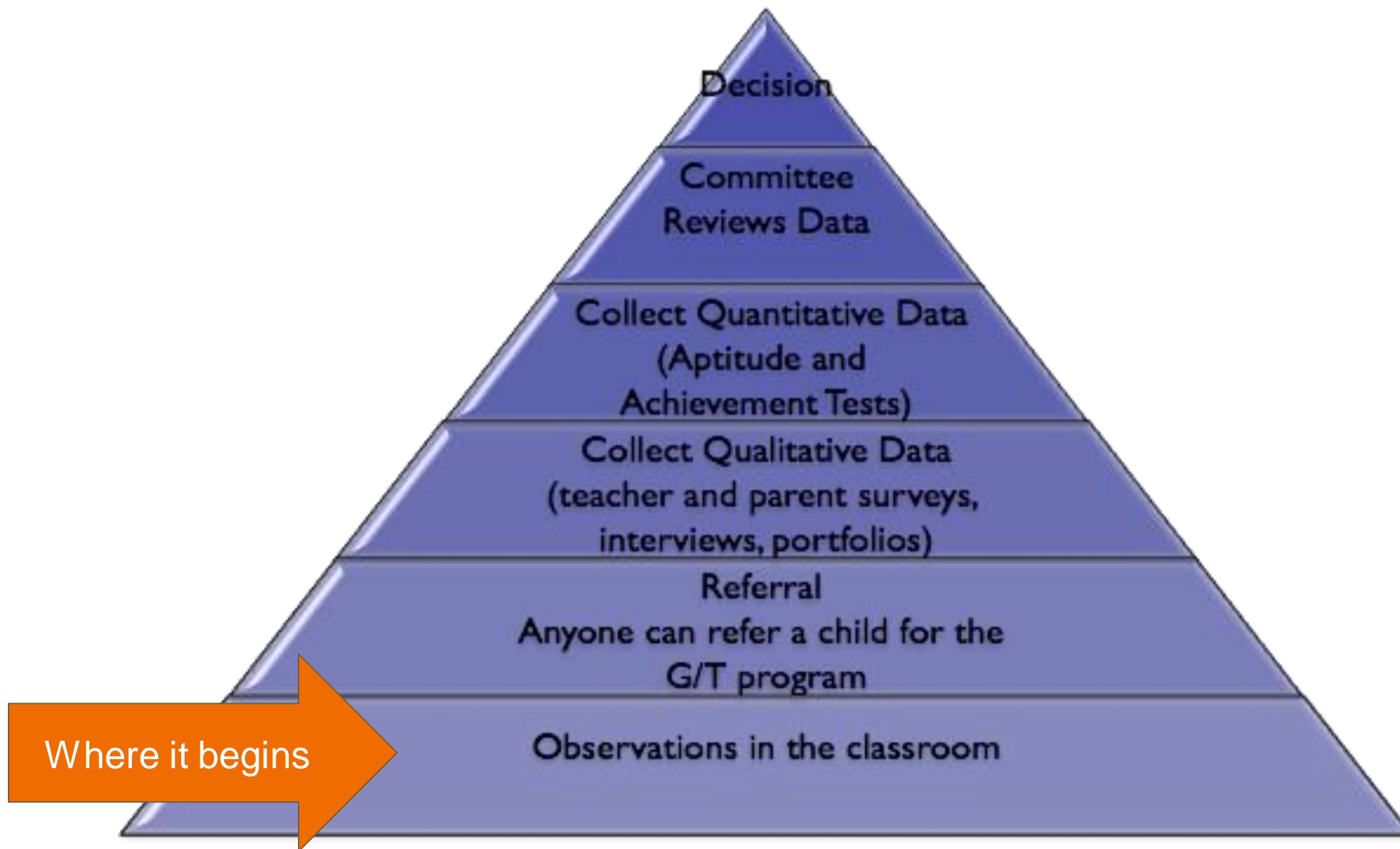


KELLER
Independent School District
ADVANCED
ACADEMICS

Keller ISD Gifted and Talented Services

- Our program is designed to identify and serve students with **general intellectual ability**. These students typically:
 - have a wide array of interests
 - learn rapidly in all areas
 - try new things with frequency
 - are self motivated

The ID & Assessment Process



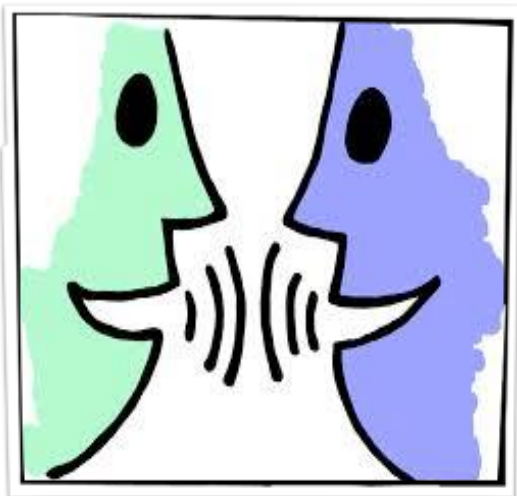
The Screening Process



- Each kindergarten student enrolled in a Keller ISD campus during the screening window (mid September- the end of October), meets 1 on 1 with the campus GT Specialist to complete a screening activity.
- During mid September to mid October, all students are also given the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) test. If scores are in the 95th percentile, this is a good indicator that GT testing could be beneficial for a student.
- The classroom teacher is also observing and watching for GT characteristics and qualities in all of their students. The GT Specialist and classroom teacher discuss all data that has been collected at the end of the screener.

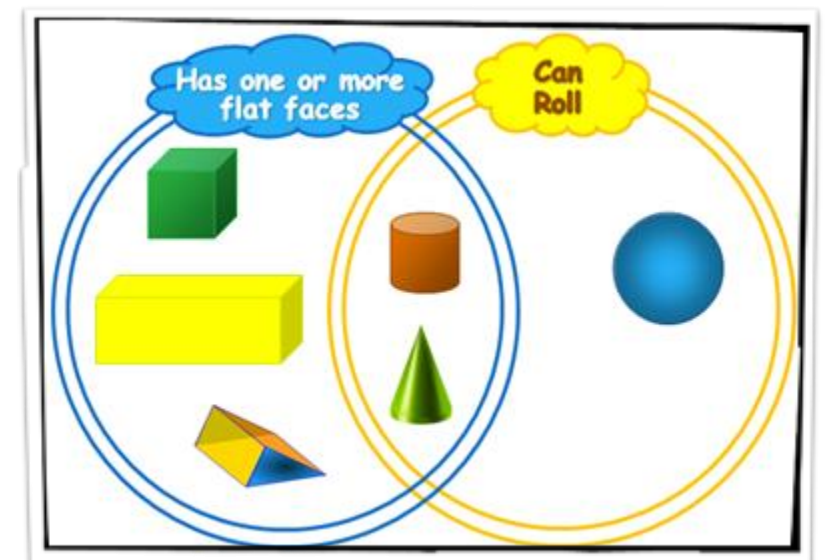
Advanced Language

- Unassumingly uses multi-syllable words
 - Uses similes, metaphors, or analogies
- Modifies language for less mature children
 - Uses language to teach other children
- Uses verbal skills to handle conflicts or to influence the behavior of others
 - Expresses similarities and differences between unrelated objects
 - Uses time concepts



Analytical Thinking

- Analyzes classroom tasks
- Is unusually attentive to details
- Sees cause and effect relationships
- Takes apart and reassembles things or ideas with unusual skill
- Expresses relationships between past/present experiences
- Makes up or expands songs, stories, and riddles about learning experiences
- Organizes collections of things



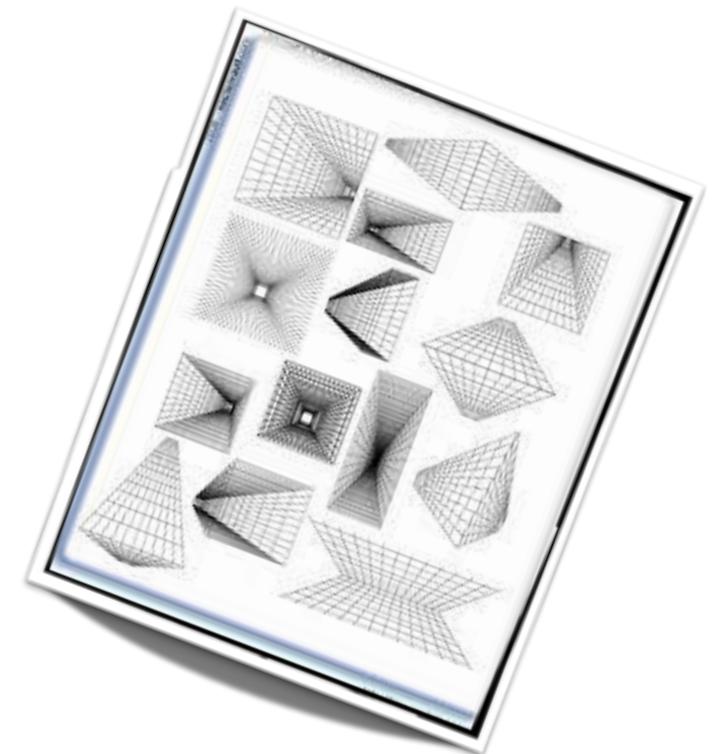
Meaning Motivation

- Keeps at an issue until it makes sense
- Asks penetrating questions
- Is curious; asks how, why, and what if
- Displays unexpected depth of knowledge in one or more areas
- Asks questions about words
- Remembers!
- Has accelerated task commitment and energy when learning
- Wants to do things on their own; independent



Perspective

- Sees another's point of view
- Unexpectedly demonstrates dimension, angle, or perspective in art
- Creates interesting shapes or patterns
- Demonstrates that right and left are relative to position



Sense of Humor

- Says or does something indicating a finely developed sense of humor
- Catches an adult's subtle humor
- Uses figurative language for humorous effect
- Understands and uses puns and riddles
- “Plays” with language



Sensitivity

- Spontaneously takes action to help someone in need
- Shows non-verbal awareness of other's needs
- Uses empathetic statements
- Has strong sense of justice
- Has high expectations of self and others

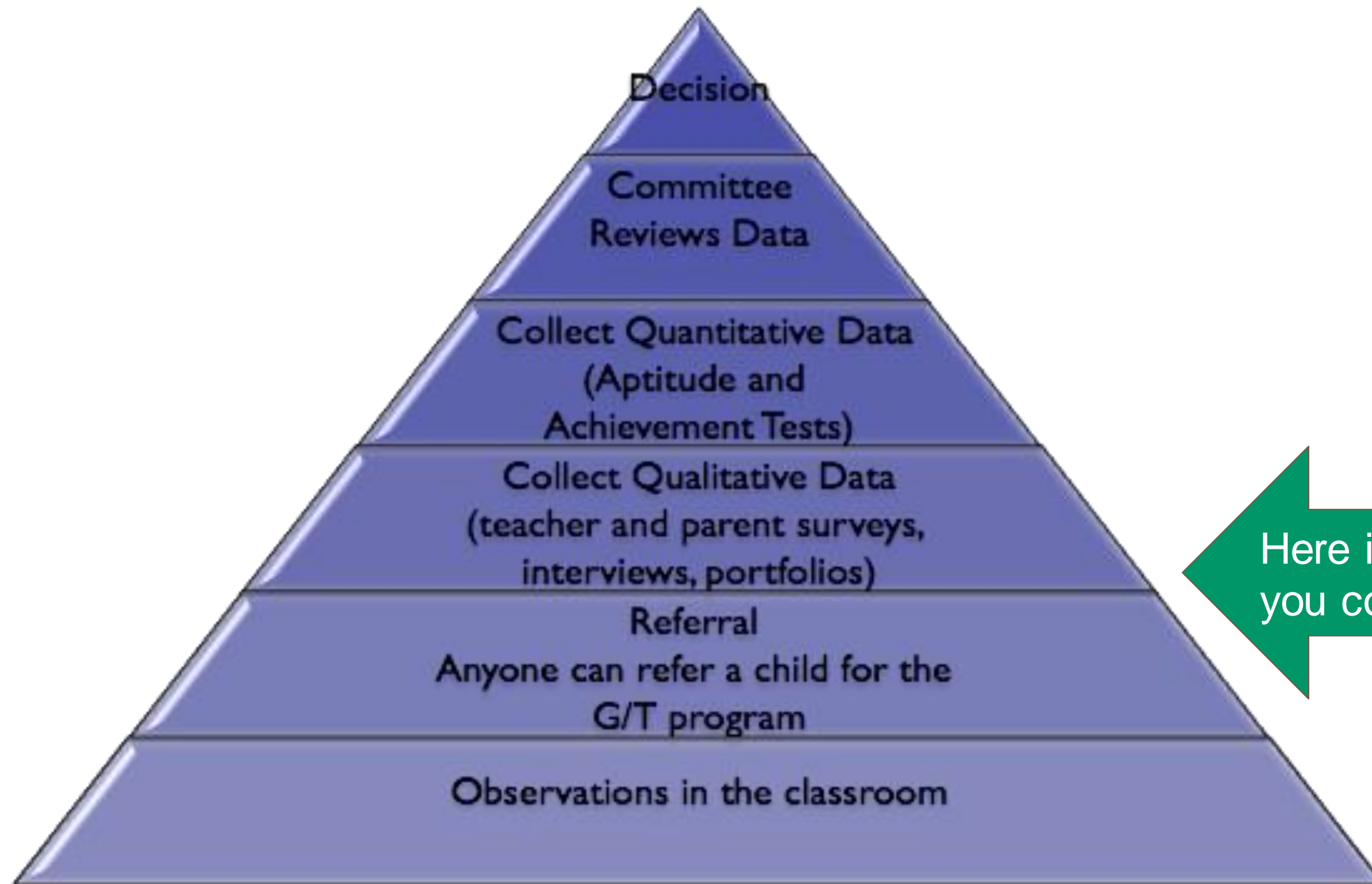


Accelerated Learning

- Rapidly accelerates learning after onset
- Categorizes by more than one attribute
- Has unusual ability to comprehend symbols
- Reads consecutive passages at an advanced reading level and explains meaning of what is read
- Has unexpected mastery of numbers
- Has unexpected understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division
- Makes change; understands relationship of coin denominations



The ID & Assessment Process



Here is where you come in

How To Refer A Student

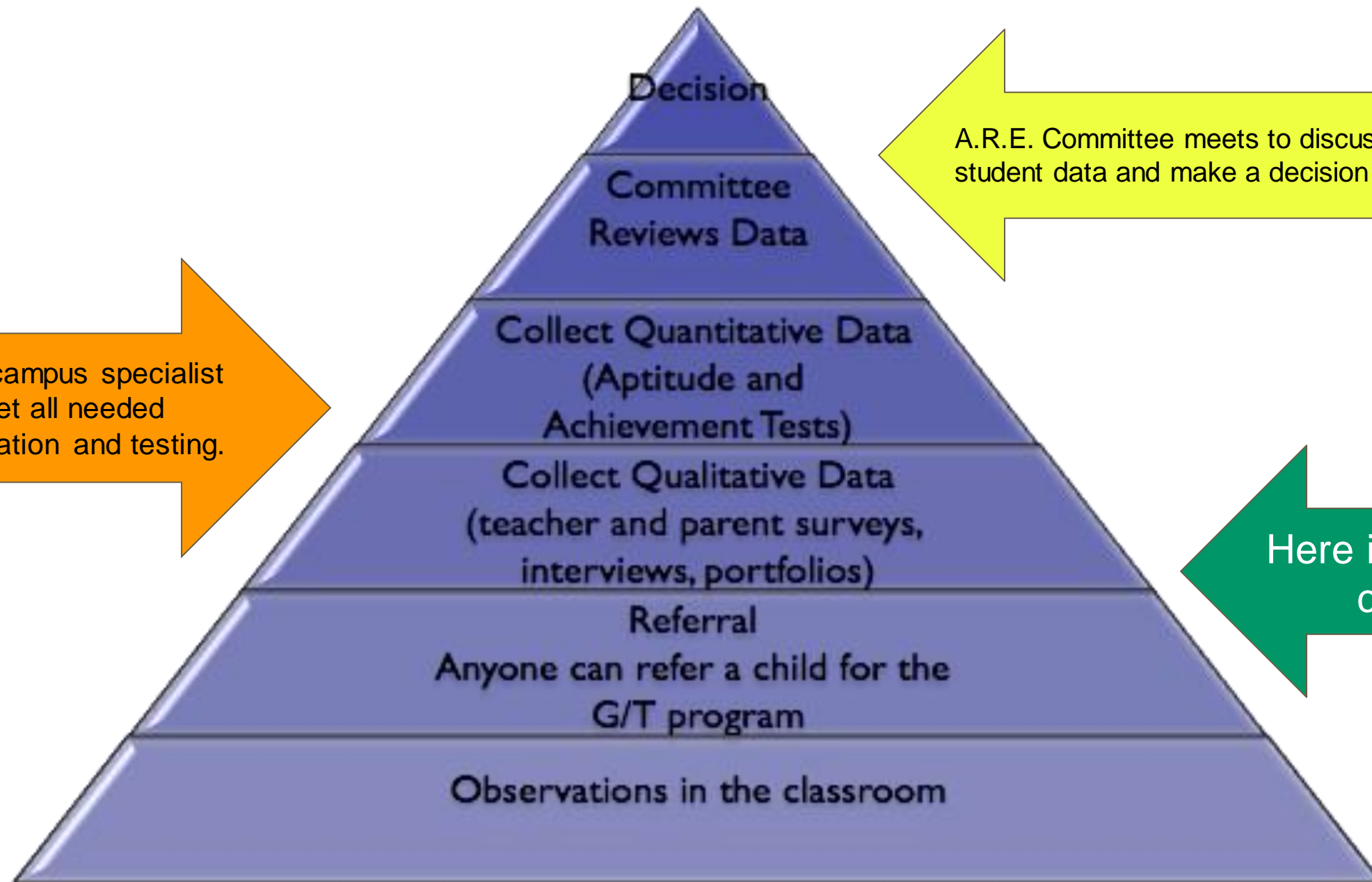
The link for the form can
be found here:

[Online Parent Observation
Form](#)

You can also scan the
QR Code below:



The ID & Assessment Process



Now the campus specialist will get all needed documentation and testing.

A.R.E. Committee meets to discuss student data and make a decision

Here is where you come in

Collect Data

Quantitative Data:

Testing Results

(MAP scores are included in
this data)

Qualitative Data:

Teacher/ Parent Surveys

Interviews

Portfolio

After the ARE Meeting

- Notification of the ARE committee's decision will be sent home with the student.
- Students who receive GT services are monitored for success. If needed, students may be placed on a growth plan, furloughed, reassessed, or exited.
- If a student is not placed in the program, parents may appeal the committee's decision. Once the appeal form has been turned in, the committee will gather additional data and review the decision.

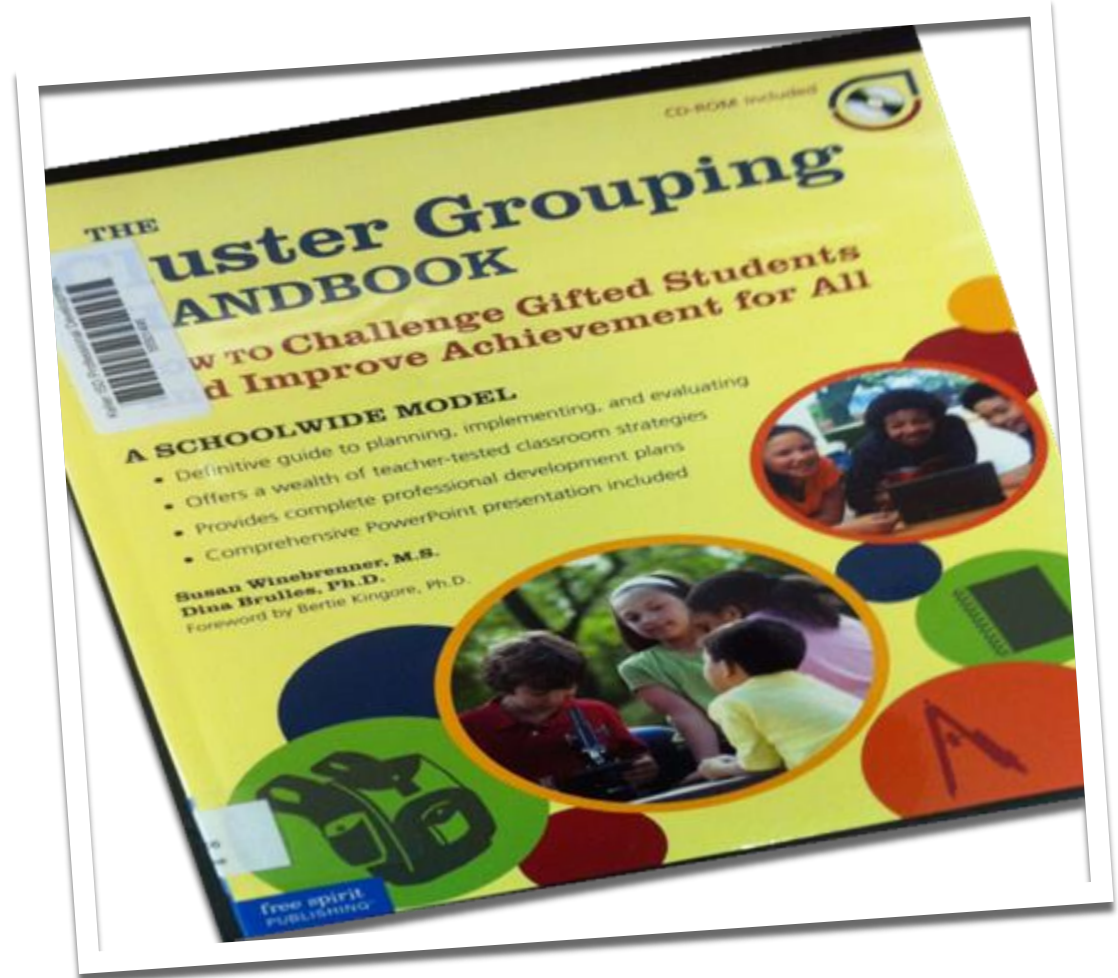
Serving GT Students

- Inclusion: cluster grouping in classrooms (begins in 1st grade)
- Pull-out classes are 2x per week: EXCEL



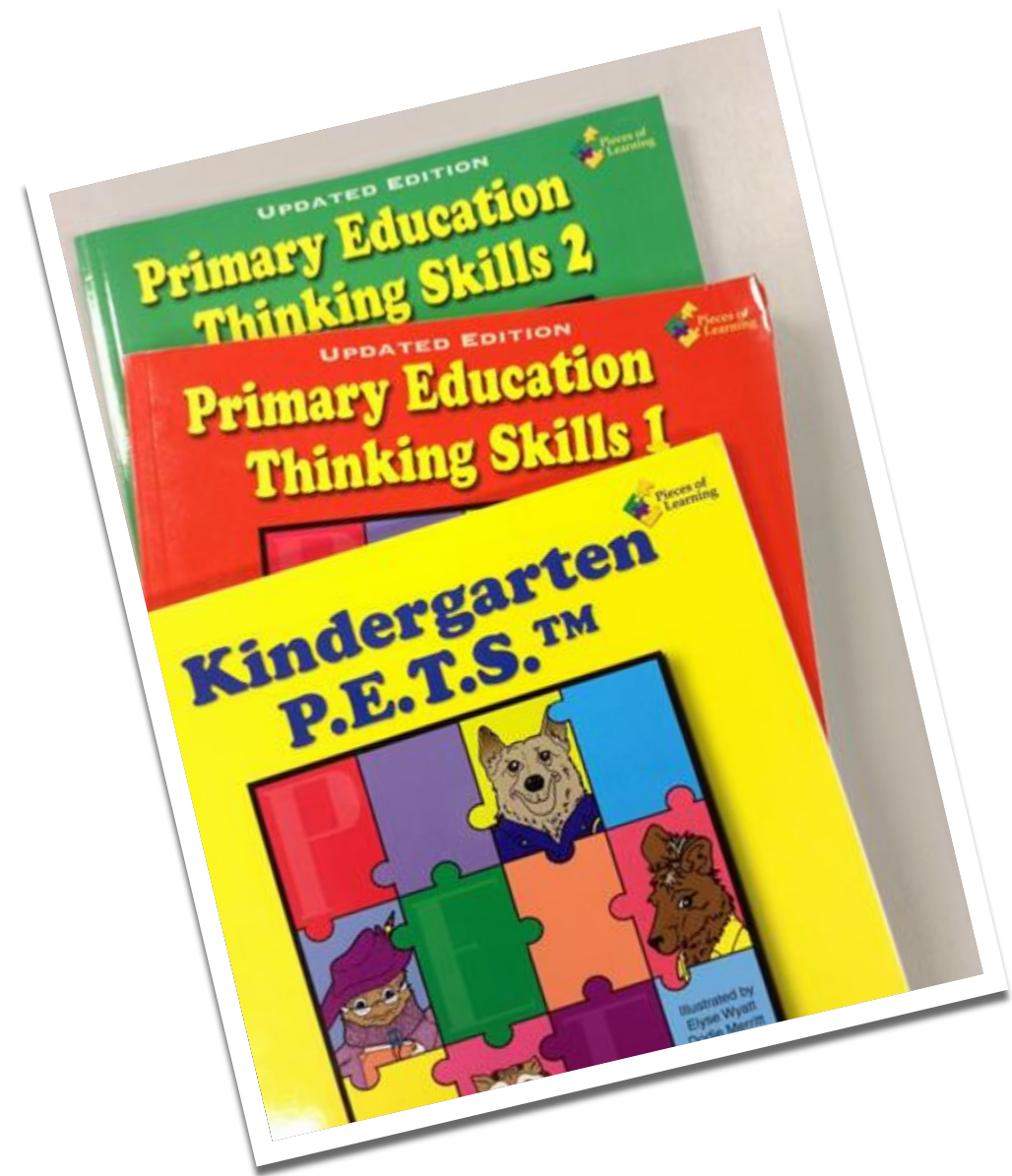
GT Inclusion

- Identified GT students are clustered (generally 5-10 students, but no more than half the class) in teachers' classrooms who have had the 30 core hours of GT professional development and are GT trained and certified.
- Differentiation in content, process, and product are provided to ensure everyone is learning at his/her potential.



Services: EXCEL

- Kindergarten GT students attend EXCEL classes with a GT Specialist twice a week.
- Primary Education Thinking Skills is the primary resource for K-2 EXCEL.



Differentiation Resources

- GT Specialist
- Advanced Academics Webpage
- Depth & Complexity
- Learning Menus
- Curriculum Compacting



Advanced Academics Site for More

Advanced Academics Website



KELLER ISD
intentionally exceptional

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ADVANCED ACADEMICS

- [Advanced Academics / Gifted & Talented Services](#)
- [Advanced Placement](#)
- [Advanced Academics Course Offerings](#)
- [Academic Acceleration](#)
- [Gifted & Talented Services](#)

ADVANCED ACADEMICS & GIFTED/TALENTED SERVICES

Supporting K-12 advanced academic programming to elevate access to rigor, engage students in opportunities for accelerated learning, and retain gifted, high-achieving, and advanced learners in Keller ISD schools by allowing students to participate in above-grade level work in settings appropriate for their academic, social, and emotional needs.

○ [Advanced Academic Course Offerings](#)

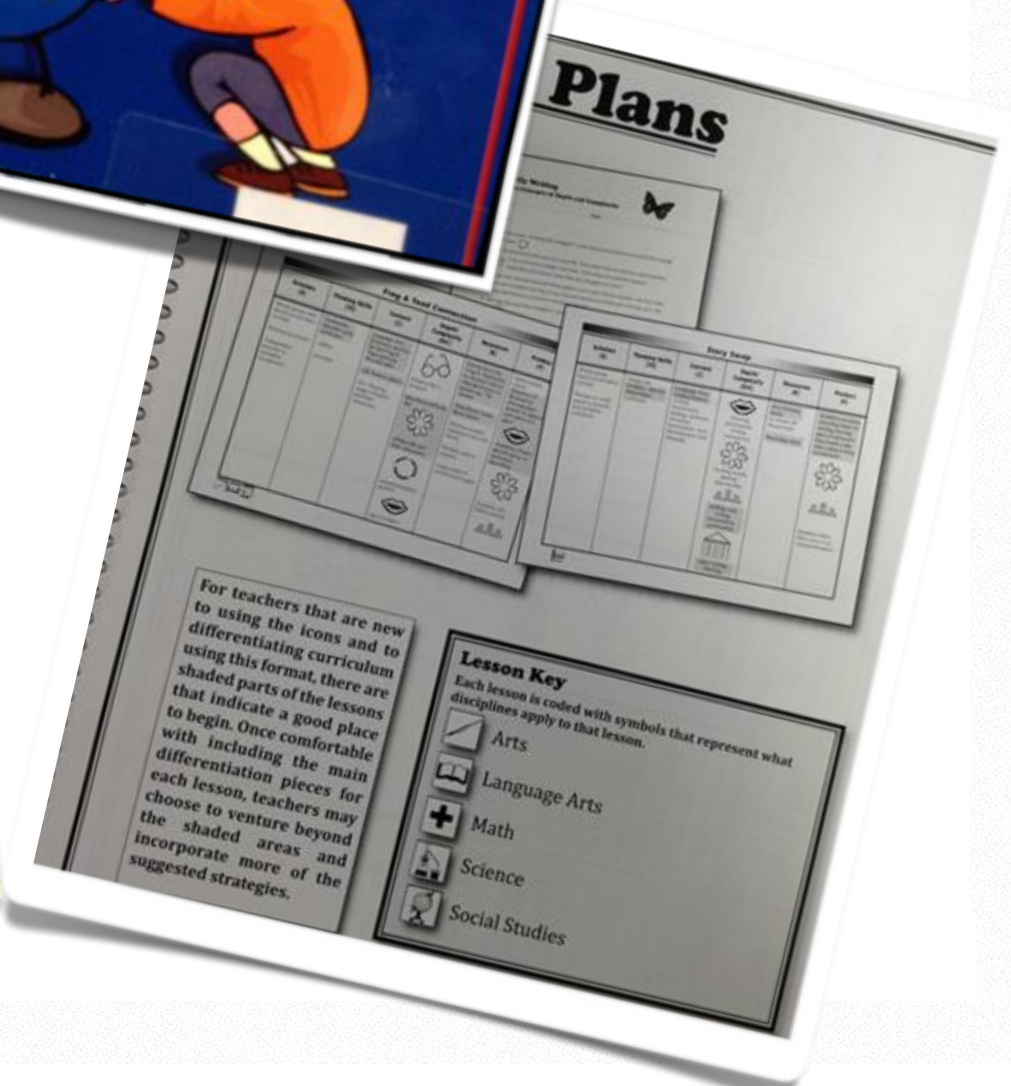
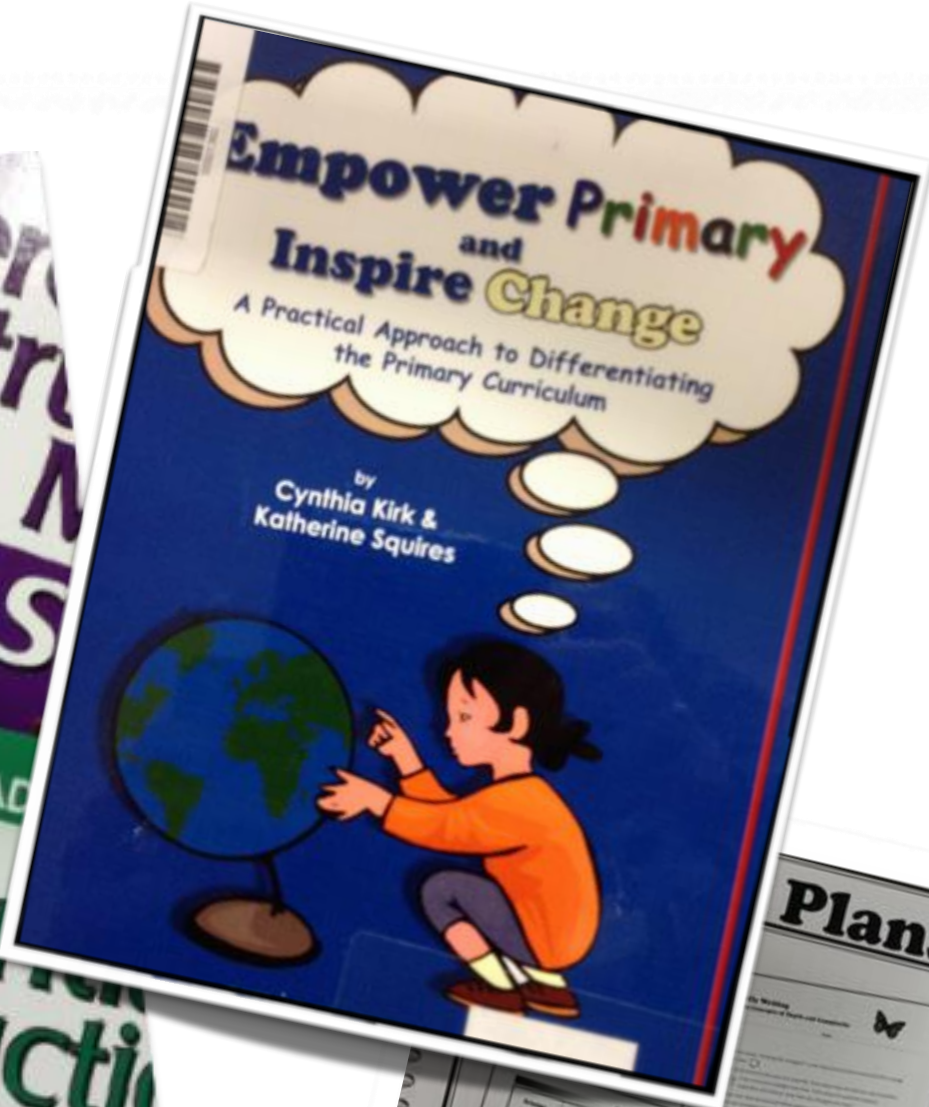
○ [Gifted & Talented Services](#)

○ [Academic Acceleration](#)

○ [Advanced Academics Advisory Committee](#)

○ [Academic Competition Opportunities](#)

○ [Summer Camp Opportunities](#)



FAQs

-When do Kindergarten students typically begin receiving services? February

-Are kindergarten students clustered in a class with other GT students? They will be clustered beginning in 1st grade.

Questions?

Please contact your campus GT specialist or the AA/GT Coordinator below.

Advanced Academics
Coordinator Donna Hodge, M.Ed.

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