



2011-2012 Gifted and Talented Services

The Keller Independent School District Gifted and Talented Services for the 2011-2012 school year will include an array of learning experiences designed to meet the needs of our gifted students.

Students identified as gifted and talented in grades K-2 will be clustered and served within their homerooms through differentiation and extension activities. Teachers who have received 30 hours of gifted and talented professional development will differentiate content to ensure appropriately challenging depth and complexity and employ strategies such as flexible pacing and grouping, tiered instruction, and extension activities. Students will be encouraged to pursue areas of interest in selected disciplines through guided and independent research leading to the development of advanced-level products and/or performances such as those provided through the Texas Performance Standards Project.

In grades 3-6, gifted and talented students will also be clustered with teachers who have received 30 hours of gifted and talented professional development. In addition, third through sixth grade students will meet with a gifted specialist for in-depth study and activities designed to address the unique social-emotional needs of gifted students. The major goal will be to facilitate the growth of students as independent, self-directed learners, with the development of skills, concepts, and positive attitudes within the cognitive, emotional, and social domains. Students will engage in independent investigations and project-based studies, such as the Texas Performance Standards Project, as well as experiences to address the unique social-emotional needs of gifted individuals. The 21st Century Skills of innovation, communication, problem solving, collaboration, critical thinking, and information/media/ technological literacy will be key as KISD's gifted learners become lifelong learners.

Gifted and talented students in grades 7-12 have the opportunity to enroll in Pre-Advanced Placement and Advanced Placement courses. All Pre- AP and AP teachers attend professional development in the areas of the nature and needs of gifted students, social emotional needs of gifted students, the identification and assessment of gifted students, and receive additional training in instruction and differentiation for gifted learners.