

# 2018-19 Middle School GT Curriculum

## 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade



## GT Students Have Bright Ideas!

Welcome to GT! We will spend our first four lessons helping students understand the challenges of GT, including risk taking, working on difficult tasks, collaboration, and making the most of making mistakes. We will also discuss what it means to be in GT, classroom rules and procedures, and meeting expectations. We will use the story of Levi Strauss to address creative problem solving. Students will create a unique visual representation of themselves.

## Raiders of the Lost Arkansas

This exciting unit will span most of the fall semester and will introduce students to the world of archaeology and anthropology. Students will learn to think like an archaeologist, to discover how artifacts they uncover give clues into the lives of people who lived in the past. Students will compare artifacts discarded in the past to those discarded in the present to determine how alike and different people are over various historical time periods. Students will learn the correct methodology to use at a dig site as we participate in a dig on a field trip to Petit Jean State Park and the Arkansas Archaeology Survey at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute.



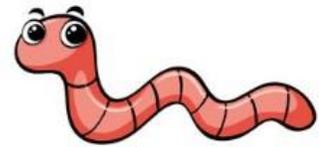
The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing.  
-Albert Einstein



# Descriptograms

This is a short independent study where students choose an object to learn about and on which to become an expert. Students will write and give a speech in costume as if they were that object. This unit will require loads of creativity!

## Critters: the fascinating world of bugs

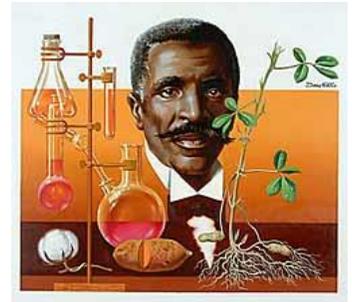


Students will become familiar with a variety of different types of critters, such as different types of insects, worms, and spiders. We will learn the scientific classification process and the characteristics of insects as compared to non-insect critters. Students will participate in a worm dissection lab and will create their own original species of worm.

## Sustainable Agriculture

Our last unit of the year is an investigation of sustainability, specifically with regard to agriculture. We will learn about the changes food, health, and nutrition throughout time and place. We will use Peter Mendel's research in the book, *Hungry Planet*, to study the connection between availability of different types of food with statistics such as life expectancy and obesity rates.

We will look at several specific crops, such as chocolate, and how they are now being used as examples of sustainability. Students will take a culminating field trip to the George Washington Carver National Monument in Diamond, Missouri.



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