

What is "GIFTED" and why is it important?

According to the National Association for Gifted, the Federal definition of "gifted" is: "Students, children, or youth who give evidence of high achievement capability in areas such as intellectual, creative, artistic, or leadership capacity, or in specific academic fields, and who need services and activities not ordinarily provided by the school in order to fully develop those capabilities."

Gifted instruction contains specific instructional strategies tailored to the needs of the gifted learner. This differentiated instruction must foster higher-level thinking, allow for greater student expression, consider individual student strengths and weaknesses, and provide a variety of learning experiences to challenge students.



Who We Are

About Us

Little Red is a public school district with a passion for educating students in a caring and safe learning environment. Our school has a dedicated faculty and staff, a supportive community, and a student body that makes us proud!

Contact Us

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Santa Cruz Elementary District #287 Duquesne Road
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Santa Cruz Elementary District #28

Gifted and Talented Program



What is included in the Gifted and Talented Program at Little Red?

Our Gifted and Talented program at Little Red emphasizes higher order thinking and reasoning skills such as:

Creative and critical thinking

Problem-solving strategies

Verbal, spatial, & mathematical reasoning

Sample lessons and activities include: "Handson Equations", "Blokus", "SET" Logic Puzzles, "Architek Blocks", Socratic Seminar, and Social



Studies and Science Units



Arizona Department of Education defines "Gifted Education" as:

"appropriate academic course offerings and services that are required to provide an educational program that is an integral part of the regular school day and that is commensurate with the academic abilities and potential of a gifted pupil"

"Gifted students represent a vital resource that has unlimited potential. We need to make sure that these exceptional young people have the support and services they need to be successful."

Chuck Grassley

How does "Gifted and Talented" Education look at Little Red:

Students at Little Red participate in a "resource" model program where they are "pulled out" for a minimum of 2 hours per week and are supported by a highly qualified certified teacher of the gifted.

Identification Procedures:

Santa Cruz Elementary District #28 uses the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), testing all students to identify gifted and talented learners.

The CogAT measures reasoning and problemsolving skills in three areas: Verbal (word sequences), Quantitative (number sense), and Nonverbal (pictures and geometric shapes).

Any students who scores at or above the 97th percentile in any one area is considered "gifted" by the State of Arizona. Percentile means that a student scored higher that 97% of the students in his/her age group.

Little Red also identifies "talented" students. Any student that scores at or above the 92nd percentile in any one area will also receive services.