



Moravia Park Elementary School #105, Title I

Enrichment LAB News

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Baltimore City Public Schools
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Our Fourth Year as a GAL School! Moravia Park's Gifted and Advanced Learning Program

Happy New Year! As an EGATE and a CTY Emerging Scholars School, September is an exciting time for the GAL program here at Moravia Park. The GAL Committee analyzes Moravia Park PARCC, i-Ready, and NNAT3 data and identifies scholars for pull-out services, all our Kindergarten students take the NNAT3 (Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test), we identify students for our Baltimore Emerging Scholar's Program, and ILPs (Individual Learning Plans) are updated and begun for our Gifted and Advanced students.

In the classroom and in pull-out services, teachers support our high ability learners with GAL curriculum from:

- **Jacob's Ladder** for reading and language arts;
- **Project M² and M³** for mathematics;
- **Primary Talent Development** (K– 2) to challenge students with open-ended, problem solving learning experiences in the classroom.

Other programs Moravia Park offers for high ability learners are:

- A mentoring program with the **University of MD School of Medicine** for formally identified gifted, advanced or talent development 3rd graders. This program starts in late October and runs through April 2020. Students meet weekly with first year medical students and complete science experiments from the **William and Mary Gifted Science Curriculum**.
- **Johns Hopkins University's Baltimore Emerging Scholar Program (CTY BES) for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Graders** to engage and challenge gifted, advanced and high potential students in pull-out STEM curriculum focused on Architecture, Engi-

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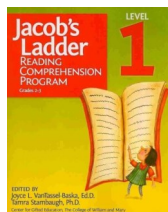
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Take a Deeper Dive into GAL Issues

This summer I found the Mind Matters Podcast and have listened to almost all of Emily Kircher-Morris's very engaging discussions with experts in the field of gifted education. The Mind Matters Podcast features discussions with leaders in the fields of psychology, education, and beyond, with an emphasis on gifted/talented and 2e (twice-exceptional) children and adults. Mind Matters explores parenting, counseling techniques, and best practices for enriching the lives of high-ability people. Visit their website to learn more and find out how to access this excellent podcast.



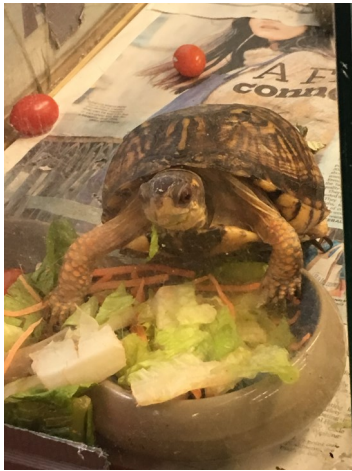
<https://www.mindmatterspodcast.com/>





LAB Pets

Michele is a female eastern box turtle who turns 11 on Halloween. We love her birthday—it's only fitting as she is always in costume! Michele loves cantaloupe, tomatoes, lettuce



and worms. We have over 20 tilapia and koi in all three tanks of our aquaponics system. We plan to plant lettuce, basil and oregano later this month. Our



How We Identify Students for GAL Services

City Schools adheres to the requirements stipulated by Maryland regulations (COMAR 13A.04.07) and uses multiple indicators in the identification of gifted and advanced learners. City Schools uses nationally normed ability assessments – either the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT3) or the Cognitive Ability Test (CogAT) - as an initial identifier, teacher recommendations are also used as identifiers; then the district uses data from nationally normed achievement assessments in mathematics and reading: PARCC, i-Ready, Amplify and/or the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) to formally identify students.

Gifted learners are those students whose ability and achievement scores fall in the 90th to 99th percentile range.

Advanced learners are those students whose ability and achievement

Technology in a Mystery Bag



We began our first pull-out sessions for 1st—5th graders with an exploration of technology and engineering from the award winning Engineering is Elementary curriculum from the Museum of Science, Boston. The “Technology in a Mystery Bag” activity allowed us to explore an expanded understanding of technology and the idea that engineers design technologies to help people solve problems or to meet a need.

In the photographs below our 4th grade scholars share their answers to discussion questions about their mystery object with their classmates. They enjoyed the opportunity to debate their ideas and share their learning with each other.

Engineering is Elementary is a rigorously researched, classroom-tested collection of resources that increases students' interest in and confidence about engineering. It is designed to encourage all children to see the values inherent in STEM and to envision themselves as potential engineers. Critically, in our GAL classes, the EiE curriculum encourages us to work together to solve problems and provides a safe and supportive place to

