



## *Kansas Effective Practices Instructional Toolkit*

### Gifted 101 and Beyond

In a Pinch: Strategies, Links and References

## **GENERAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR GIFTED STUDENTS IN THE REGULAR CLASSROOM**

### **Grouping**

- Group gifted students with other gifted students or higher-level learners.
- Refrain from grouping gifted students with lower-level students for remediation.

### **Curriculum**

- Encourage students to explore concepts in depth and encourage independent studies or investigations.
- Use thematic instruction to connect learning across the curriculum.
- Encourage creative expression and thinking by allowing students to choose how to approach a problem or assignment.
- Expand students' time for free reading.
- Invite students to explore different points of view on a topic of study and compare the two.
- Provide learning centers where students are in charge of their learning.
- Brainstorm with gifted children on what types of projects they would like to explore to extend what they're learning in the classroom.
- Determine where students' interests lie and capitalize on their inquisitiveness.
- Refrain from having them complete more work in the same manner. Employ differentiated curriculum to keep interest high.
- Avoid drill and practice activities.
- Ask students' higher level questions that require students to look into causes, experiences, and facts to draw a conclusion or make connections to other areas of learning.
- If possible, compact curriculum to allow gifted students to move more quickly through the material.
- Encourage students to make transformations- use a common task or item in a different way.

### **Environment**

- Create a room environment that encourages creativity and discovery through the use of interesting literature and reference materials.
- Allow flexible seating arrangements.
- Encourage students to get involved in school clubs and extra curricular activities that support and extend their learning and experiences.
- Supply reading materials on a wide variety of subjects and levels.
- Create an environment where ideas are accepted without being evaluated and criticized; where risk-taking is encouraged.
- Provide a learning-rich environment that includes a variety of resources, media, tasks and methods of teaching.
- Allow children to be highly mobile as they move in and out of groups and tasks at their own pace.
- Provide an adult mentor that shares similar interests.

### **Classroom Management**

- Provide alternatives for students who complete their work early.
- Allow students to make choices in their learning.
- Help students set their own learning goals, then provide them with the opportunity to work towards those goals.
- Create a contract with students which outlines tasks to be completed, concepts to be learned and the evaluation technique so students can be active participants in their learning.

### **Assessment**

- Evaluate students individually instead of as a group.
- Allow gifted students to pre-test before starting a new unit to see what information is already familiar to them.