

Neag Center
for
Gifted Education
and
Talent
Development

NEWS & VIEWS

The latest in Gifted Education

Sept. 29, 2006 Vol. 1, Issue 3 Visit us on the web at <http://www.gifted.uconn.edu>

DO NOT TRAIN CHILDREN TO LEARNING BY FORCE AND HARSHNESS, BUT DIRECT THEM TO IT BY WHAT AMUSES THEIR MINDS, SO THAT YOU MAY BE BETTER ABLE TO DISCOVER WITH ACCURACY THE PECULIAR BENT OF THE GENIUS OF EACH. – PLATO

GIFTED EDUCATION AND NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND. Gifted Students Left Behind? Law Shorts Top Students, Advocates Say
<http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060915/NEWS01/609150316/1001>



CAROL ANN TOMLINSON ON DIFFERENTIATION. Traveling the Road to Differentiation in Staff Development: Teacher Leaders Can Help Educators Hurdle Four Key Barriers to Implementation
<http://nsdc.org/library/publications/jsd/tomlinson264.cfm>



MEETING THE NEEDS OF GIFTED STUDENTS.

New Approach Lets Students Put Own Stamp on Projects

<http://www.cleveland.com/search/index.ssf?/base/isedu/1148988844307880.xml?isedu&coll=2>

Principal Unites School Around Student Strengths

http://www.education-world.com/a_issues/chat/chat18o.shtml

Celebrate Strengths, Nurture Affinities: A Conversation with Mel Levine

http://www.ascd.org/portal/site/ascd/template.MAXIMIZE/menuitem.c00a836e7622024fb85516f762108aoc/?javax.portlet.tpst=818d37ec925d82800173fc1062108aoc_ws_MX&javax.portlet.prp_818d37ec925d82800173fc1062108aoc_viewID=article_view&javax.portlet.prp_818d37ec925d82800173fc1062108aoc_journalmoid=183b02fdbbo6d010VgnVCM1000003d01a8coRCRD&javax.portlet.prp_818d37ec925d82800173fc1062108aoc_articlemoid=116b02fdbbo6d010VgnVCM1000003d01a8coRCRD&javax.portlet.begCacheTok=token&javax.portlet.endCacheTok=token



GIFTED EDUCATION IN HIGH SCHOOL.

Choosing a College, With Help from the Web

http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/20/education/20SEARCH.html?_r=1&ref=education&oref=slogin

Vocational Education: 'It's Not Your Grandfather's Trade School'

http://www.boston.com/news/education/k_12/articles/2006/04/23/vocational_education_its_not_your_grandfathers_trade_school

In Many Classrooms, 'Honors' in Name Only: As High Schools Offer More Advanced Courses, Educators Fear Content Doesn't Always Earn the Label

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/09/18/AR2006091800991.html?nav-hcmodule>

SPECIAL POPULATIONS AND GIFTED EDUCATION.

Closing the 'Reality Gap': The First Step in Closing the Minority Achievement Gap is to Educate All Students to be Conceptual Thinkers

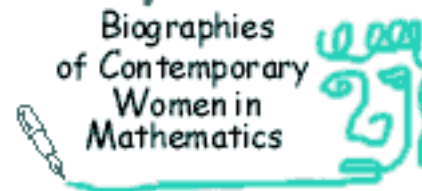
<http://www.asbjcom/specialreports/0406SpecialReports/S4.html>

Women Aren't Good in Math...Or Are They?

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/30/AR2006083002858.html>



Essay Contest



One way of encouraging females in mathematics is to increase awareness of women's ongoing contributions to the mathematical

sciences. The Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) is sponsoring an essay contest for biographies of contemporary women mathematicians and statisticians in academic, industrial, and government careers. The essays will be based primarily on an interview with a woman currently working in a mathematical sciences career. This contest is open to students in the following categories: Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12, and College Undergraduate. At least one winning submission from each category will win a prize and be published online at the AWM web site. Additionally, a grand prize winner will have his or her submission published in the AWM Newsletter. Submission deadline is November 3, 2006. To read more about this contest and read past results, visit <http://www.awm-math.org/biographies/contest.html>.

WHAT WORKS IN GIFTED EDUCATION.



The University of Connecticut Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development, along with the University of Virginia, is very proud to have received the 2006-2011 Javits' Grant to house the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented. During this time period, the two universities will be conducting the study, "What Works in Gifted Education: Excellence and Equity in Educating Gifted Students." The focus of the quasi-experimental research study will be to: (a) analyze the effects of 3 instructional/curricular options on students identified using traditional and expanded criteria; (b) extend and enhance prior studies by developing a defensible identification system; and (c) measure outcomes using assessments grounded in enhanced state content standards in reading and math, performance assessments reflecting integrated investigative and problem-solving skills, and standardized achievement measures. The research will be conducted on a national sample of 120 schools (40 per model) representing rural, suburban, and urban schools of varying socioeconomic levels with diverse populations and implementing 3 research-based models: (1) Differentiation of Instruction Model, (Carol Ann Tomlinson); (2) Depth and Complexity Model (Sandra N. Kaplan), and (3) Schoolwide Enrichment Model (Joseph S. Renzulli and Sally M. Reis). This 5-year research plan will lead to empirical and descriptive understandings of "what works in gifted education." The emphasis on identification, instructional/curricular models, and traditional and performance-based assessments will demonstrate how to nurture and develop the talents and abilities of young people while promoting equity and excellence in our educational systems throughout the country.

COMPETITIONS FOR STUDENTS.

Do you know a high school junior or senior who is interested in a Type III in epidemiology? Encourage him or her to investigate the many behavioral, biological, environmental, and social factors that affect health and, based on that knowledge, to identify ways to improve the health of the public. Then, they can enter the Young Epidemiology Scholars Competition for original student research and possibly win one of up to 120 college scholarships! Deadline for registration and uploading of projects is February 1, 2007. Find out more at <http://www.collegeboard.com/yes/fs/atc.html>.

Team enrollment for ThinkQuest International 2007 is now open! The ThinkQuest Competition is a project-based learning challenge in which teams of 3-6 students age 9-19 with a coach from around the world compete to create the best educational websites. Winning websites are eligible for prizes (like laptops and money), and entries may be published in the popular ThinkQuest Library. Early submission deadline is April 16, 2007. Find out more information at <http://www.thinkquest.org>.

RENZULLI LEARNING SYSTEMS RECOMMENDATIONS! Here are some favorite websites from RLS that may help teachers motivate and interest their students through the use of Internet technology:



Science of Music - <http://www.exploratorium.edu/music/>

What is music? Is the chirping of a bird music? How about the tap-tap-tap of a hammer, or the wail of a creaking door? Is playing a garbage can different than playing a drum? Explore the science of music with this website, through online exhibits, movies, and questions. Along the way, you can compose, mix, dance, drum, experiment, and above all...listen.

Digital History - http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/learning_history/

The most effective way to learn history is to do history. On this site, you will find many important historical movements and incidents broken down into categories. Click on the category that interests you for a short description and a list of primary source documents that you can use in your research. You can also explore the menu on the left of the screen for further information.

Mystery of the Poison Dart Frog - <http://www.ncmoa.org/costarica/>

Help the brother-sister team of Zeke and Zoey solve the mystery of the poison dart frogs in the rainforest of Costa Rica. You can play in English or Spanish so just choose your language and then get started to see if you can save the frogs.

Activities in Optics - <http://micro.magnet.fsu.edu/optics/activities/students/>

This site offers a variety of fun activities to help students learn about light, optics, and color. You will find experiments, projects, online tutorials, animations, and more.

Letters About Literature - <http://www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/letters.html>

Students in grades 4-12 write a letter to an author, alive or dead, explaining how that writer's work has made a difference in their lives. Winners receive cash awards at state and national levels.

You can check out Renzulli Learning at
<http://www.renzullilearning.com/>

Contributed by Gara Field



Neag Center for Gifted Education
and Talent Development
2131 Hillside Road, Unit 3007
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-3007
Newsletter Editor: Jill L. Adelson
jill.adelson@uconn.edu

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