Glen Ridge Public Schools-Gifted and Talented

Course Title: Young Learners

Subject: Young Learners

Grade Level: 1st/2nd grade

Duration: 20-30 minute sessions

Prerequisite: N/A

Elective or Required: N/A

Mission Statement:
The Glen Ridge School District recognizes the unique needs, abilities, talents, and potential of the individual student. The purpose of the Gifted and Talented program is to provide students with opportunities, resources, and encouragement to aspire to a higher level of academic development. By utilizing a broad range of learning experiences, higher order thinking skills, and opportunities for creativity, the potential of gifted students will be further enriched and developed.

Course Description:
This course is designed to challenge and enrich those 1st and 2nd grade students who are identified as gifted by the district. Students will participate in the Young Learners Program during a pullout period for 30 minutes every six day cycle. Students will be exposed to accelerated content and will work on a variety of projects and activities that encourage them to use critical thinking skills and creativity. Emphasis is placed on collaborative work through team building experiences. The goal of the program is to provide an environment that allows students to engage in higher level thinking and problem solving while enriching the learning experience.

This course is project based and most projects incorporate a variety of disciplines. For example, a science experiment is likely to include math, writing, and technology. The cross disciplinary nature of the course makes it difficult to separate the lessons into distinct units. The program is student centered and projects often shift focus as students express ideas and interests. Students will have access to multiple sources of technology (smartboard, chromebooks, document camera) for use in all disciplines.
Author: Trisha Fagan

Date Submitted: Summer 2016
Young Learners
Science/Engineering

Approximate # of weeks: 10

Essential Questions:
- How do scientists use information to solve problems?
- How do engineers use information to solve problems?
- Why is important to be able to draw conclusions from scientific evidence?

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to:
- Determine the properties of matter (2-PS1-1, 2-PS1-2)
- Collect and analyze data (2-PS1-1, 2-PS1-2, ETS1.B)
- Apply various scientific and engineering concepts (K-2-ETS1-1, K-2-ETS1-2, ETS1.B)
- Research a topic using both online and print resources (2-LS4-1)

Interdisciplinary Standards:
- Standard 6.3 Active Citizenship in the 21st Century
  All students will acquire the skills needed to be active informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.
- Standard 8.1 Technology Education
  All students will use computer applications to gather and organize information and to solve problems.
- Standard 9.1 21st Century Life and Career Skills
  All students will demonstrate the creative, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as both global citizens and workers in diverse ethnic and organizational cultures.

Activities:
- Boat building (buoyancy, displacement, density)
- Making water defy gravity (capillary action)
- Liquid races (viscosity)
- Liquids vs. solids experiments
- Balloon experiments
• Experiments with sound
• Building card houses (critical load)
• Research project

**Enrichment Activities:**
Students are encouraged to explore further activities in their free time.

**Methods of Assessments/Evaluation:**
• Observation
• Games
• Classwork
• Projects
• Labs

**Resources/Online Resources:**
• Youtube/smartboard
• Smartboard lessons
• Worksheets
• Safety goggles
• Library books
• Chromebooks
• Craft materials
• Teacher website
• Access to a wide variety of materials necessary for experiments (balloons, liquids, playing cards, etc.)
Approximate # of Weeks: 10

Essential Questions:
● How can I use math in my everyday life?
● How can math help me solve problems?
● Why do I need to be able to use tools of measurement?

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to:
● Use addition and subtraction to solve word problems (1.OA.A.1, 1.OA.A.2, 1.OA.B.3, 1.OA.B.4, 1.OA.B.5, 1.OA.C.5, 1.OA.C.6, 2.OA.A.1, 2.OA.B.2)
● Express the length of an object as a whole number of length units (1.MD.A.2, 2.MD.A.1, 2.MD.A.3, 2.MD.C.8)
● Recognize and identify shapes and describe their attributes (1.G.A.1, 1.G.A.2, 2.G.A.1)

Interdisciplinary Standards:
● Standard 9.1 21st Century Life and Career Skills
  All students will demonstrate the creative, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as both global citizens and workers in diverse ethnic and organizational cultures.
● Standard 8.1 Technology Education
  All students will use computer applications to gather and organize information and to solve problems.

Activities:
● Origami
● Use of measuring tool for various experiments and projects
● Number cube games
● Make your own math game
● Budgeting/money math
● Solving word problems

Enrichment Activities:
Students are encouraged to explore further activities in their free time.

Method of Assessments/Evaluation:
- Observation
- Projects
- Labs
- Discussion
- Games

**Resources/Online resources:**
- Smartboard
- Chromebooks
- Library books
- Worksheets
- Craft supplies
- Ruler/tape measure/yard stick
- Measuring cups/spoons
- Safety goggles
- gloves
Young Learners
Language Arts

Approximate # of Weeks: 20

Essential Questions:
- Why do we read?
- Why do we write?
- How do reading and writing help us communicate?

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to:
- Research a topic and compile information into a multi paragraph document (W.2.2, W.2.5, W.2.6, W.2.7, W.2.8)
- Use technology to produce variety of writing projects (W.2.6)
- Write imaginative pieces (W.2.3, L.2.1, L.2.2, L.2.6)
- Collaborate with other students on group projects (SL.2.1)
- Absorb information from a variety of sources (RL.2.7, RI.2.10)

Interdisciplinary Standards:
- **Standard 9.1 21st Century Life and Career Skills**
  All students will demonstrate the creative, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as both global citizens and workers in diverse ethnic and organizational cultures.
- **Standard 8.1 Technology Education**
  All students will use computer applications to gather and organize information and to solve problems.
- **Standard 6.3 Active Citizenship in the 21st Century**
  All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.

Activities:
- Write research paper
- Complete written lab work
- Compose letters/emails
- Direction writing
- Produce a script
● Creative writing

**Enrichment Activities:**
Students are encouraged to explore further activities in their free time.

**Methods of Assessments/Evaluation:**
- Projects
- Discussion
- Observation
- Classwork
- Labs

**Resources/Online Resources:**
- Worksheets
- Library books
- Smartboard/ebooks
- Document camera
- Blank books
- Chromebooks