Understanding the GCS AG Screening and ID Process
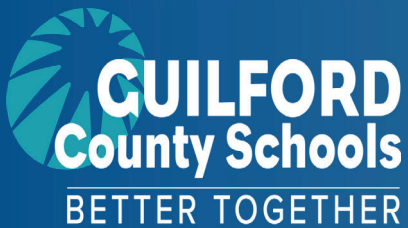
A Session for Second Grade Families

WHITNEY OAKLEY, ED.D. | SUPERINTENDENT

GUILFORD County Schools
BETTER TOGETHER

MISSION
Guilford County students will graduate as responsible citizens prepared to succeed in high education, or in the career of their choice. *
*This mission was adopted by the Guilford Board of Education on December 12, 2000.

VISION
Transforming learning and life outcomes for all students.

AG MISSION
The GCS Academically Gifted Department is committed to providing rigorous, challenging, and differentiated instruction to students who demonstrate a need for services beyond the regular education setting.

Reminder: This Presentation Is Being Recorded

The recording will be available via the AG Department website and sent to those who registered.

Reminder:
Submit A Question on the
Survey Form

Elementary Submit a Question to the AG Department

Guiding Questions

- What is AG service?

- How are students identified for AG services?

- What does AG service look like in elementary grades?

- How can parents stay informed?

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What are the different ways we refer to AG Service in Guilford County Schools?

- IG = Intellectually Gifted

- AG = Academically Gifted

- AM = Academically Gifted in Math

- AR = Academically Gifted in Reading

- AIG = Academically and Intellectually Gifted

- TD = Talent Development

- AL = Advanced Learner

- MAP = Maximizing Academic Potential

Article 9B: NC General Statutes

"The General Assembly believes …
that academically or intellectually gifted
students perform or show the potential to
perform at substantially high levels of
accomplishment when compared with others
of their age, experience, or environment."

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (1996). Article 9B, (N.C.G.S. § 115C-150.05-.08)

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Article 9B: NC General Statutes

Academically or intellectually gifted students require differentiated educational services beyond those ordinarily provided by the regular educational program."

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (1996). Article 9B, (N.C.G.S. § 115C-150.05-.08).

Screening and Identification

Step 1:

- All GCS students in Grade 2 students will take the *Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)* after Winter Break.

- The anticipated 2024-2025 CogAT testing window is:

January 7 – February 7, 2025

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Purpose of the CogAT

- Measures learning ability or abstract reasoning skills which are important in the school setting

- Indicates how well students' cognitive (thinking) processes and strategies enable them to learn new tasks and solve problems
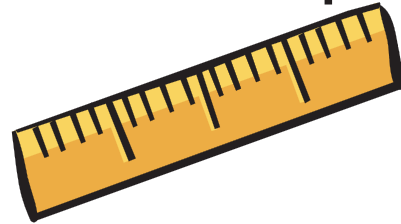
Structure of the CogAT

Battery:	Subtest:
Verbal Battery	Picture Analogies
	Picture Classification
	Sentence Completion
Quantitative Battery	Number Analogies
	Number Series
	Number Puzzles
Nonverbal Battery	Figure Matrices
	Figure Classification
	Paper Folding

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Structure of the CogAT

The test is administered over three days, one battery per day, for approximately 50-60 minutes of estimated daily testing time.

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Six Pre-CogAT Lessons
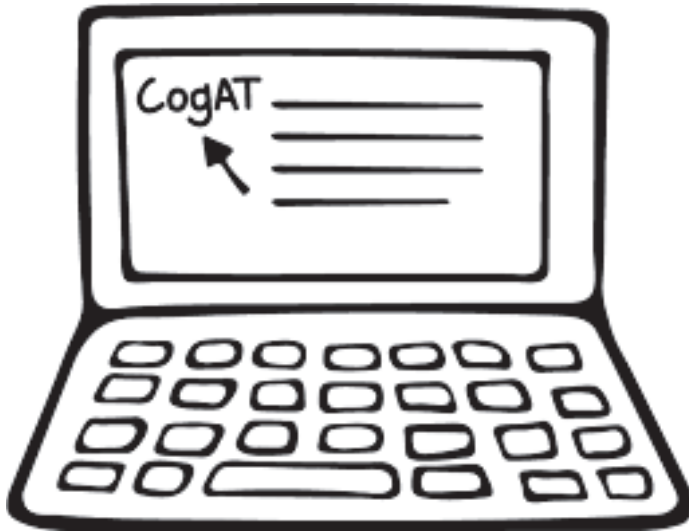
- Exposes students to each skill assessed on the CogAT

- Extends the thinking skills taught during the 1st quarter

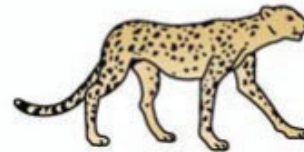- Prepares students for the online administration

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Verbal Battery

Verbal Analogies
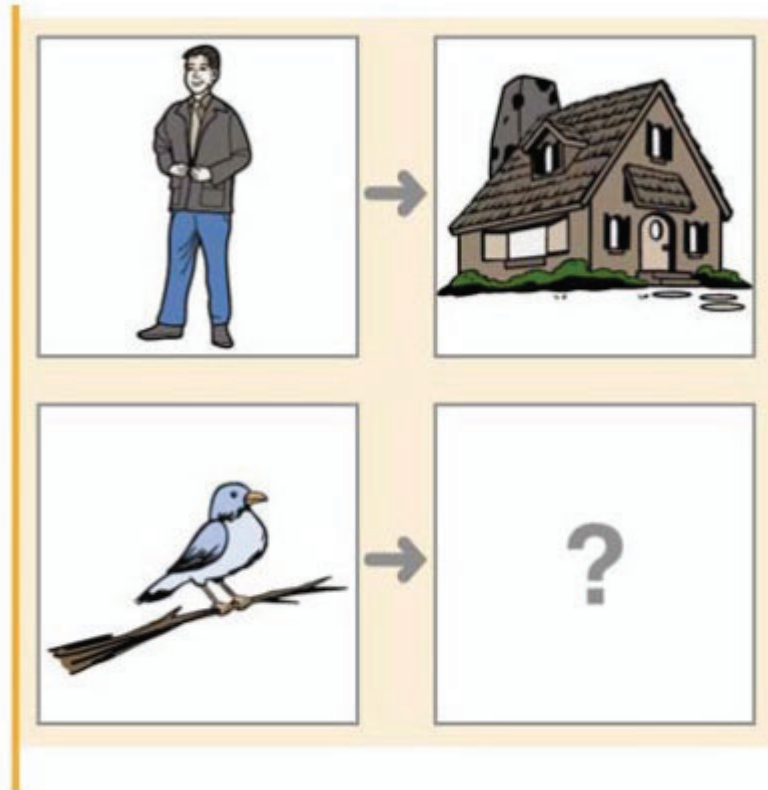
Verbal Battery

Picture Classification

Verbal Battery

Sentence Completion

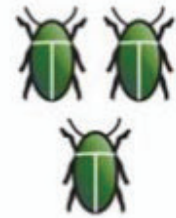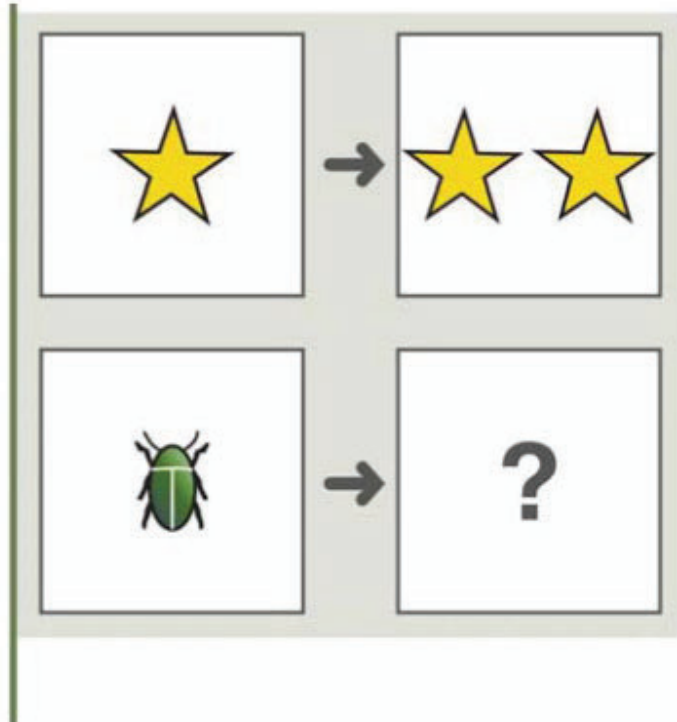If you heard a bark, which one would it be?

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Quantitative Battery

Number Analogies

Quantitative Battery
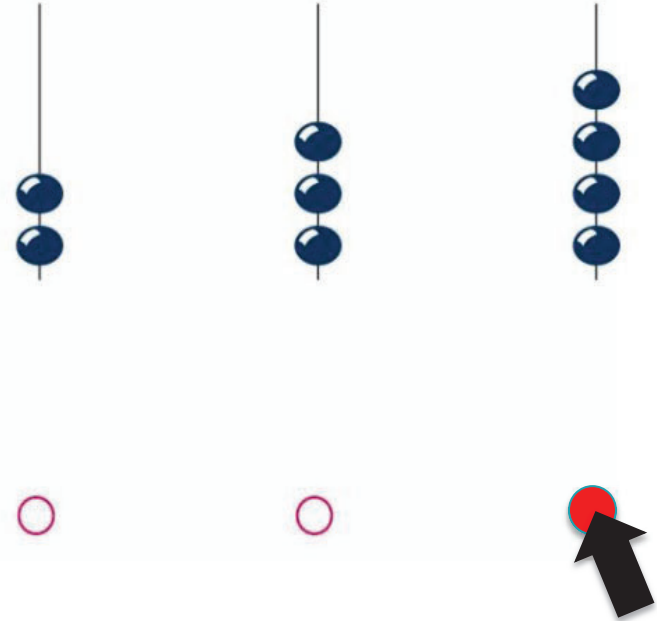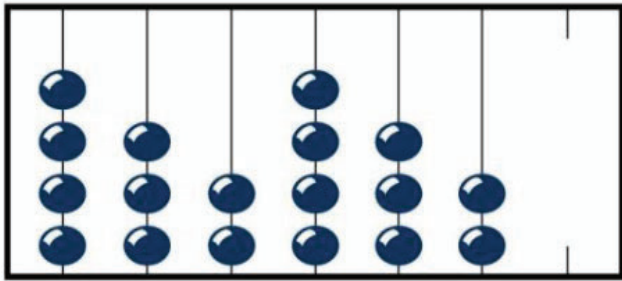
Number Series
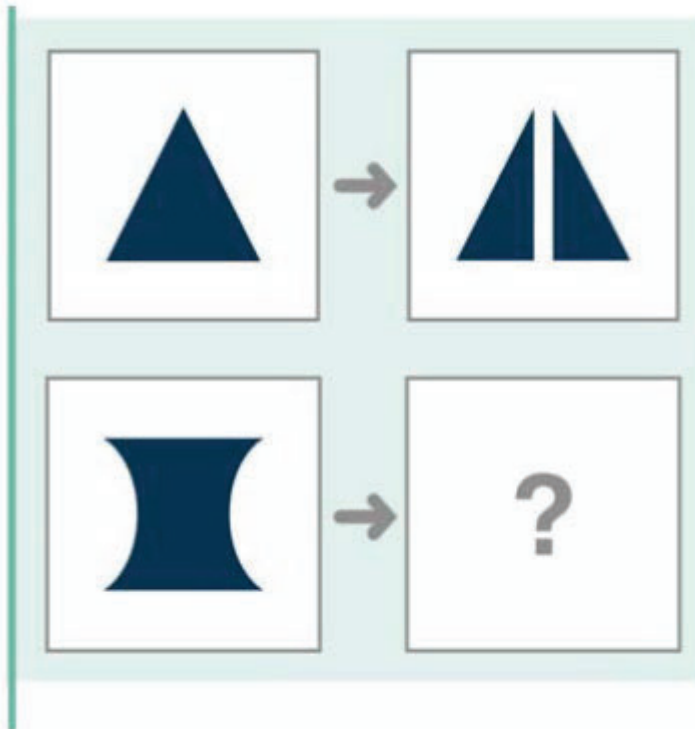
$$4 = 2 + ?$$

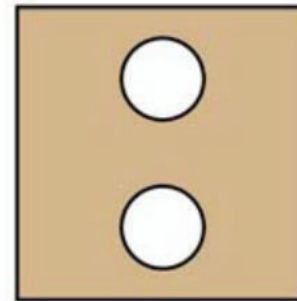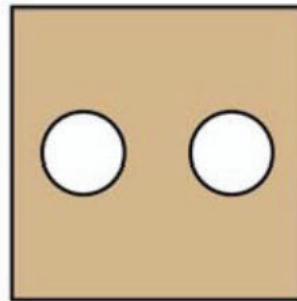| 2	3	4	6
●	○	○	○

Quantitative Battery

Number Puzzles

Nonverbal Battery

Figure Matrices

Nonverbal Battery

Paper Folding
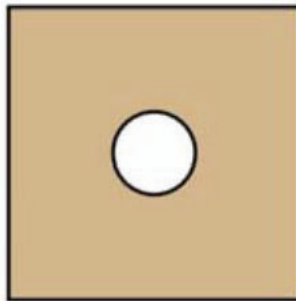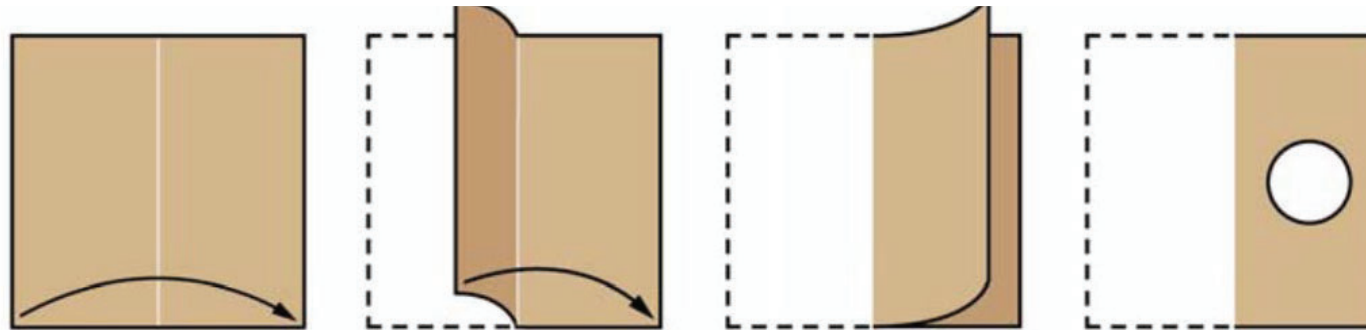
Nonverbal Battery

Figure Classification
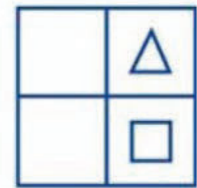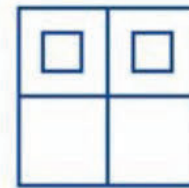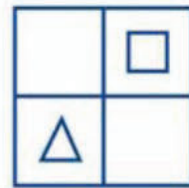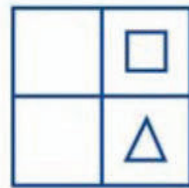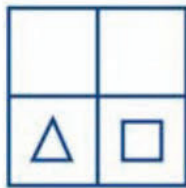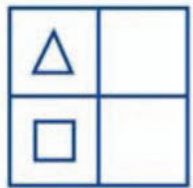
Student Score Profile

- Student score reports will be sent home with the student following the completion of the CogAT testing window.

- Interactive Student Profile page

    https://www.riversideinsights.com/apps/cogat

AG teachers collaborate with classroom teachers around strategic use of CogAT information for daily instruction.

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Screening Pool

CogAT (Local Norms)

- Age Composite (VQN)
- Individual Subtest (V, Q, or N)
- Partial Composite (VN, VQ, QN)

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GCS AG Referral Form

Available:
- AG teacher
- district website

Academically Gifted Page

Guilford County Schools Gifted Education Referral Form

Referral Date:	
Student Name:	Student ID:
School:	Grade Level:
Name of Person Initiating Referral:	
Relationship to Student:	

The student listed above is being referred for possible identification for academically gifted services. Official identification for academically gifted services does not begin until Grade 3. A referral for AG services will result in a review of current student data; but may not necessarily lead to additional testing. If needed, testing for AG services will occur during the following AG testing window: _____ (To Be Completed by the AG Teacher).

Reason(s) for Referral:

☐ Request for grade acceleration
☐ Request for subject acceleration
☐ Grades are mostly "As"
☐ Unchallenged with regular curriculum
☐ Asks/Answers questions above and beyond same age peers
☐ Enjoys studying and/or performing topics out of school
☐ Writes/Creates using detail and originality

Note: At the secondary level, additional testing is not a part of the AG referral process. When referrals are received for secondary students, available data will be reviewed to determine the student's eligibility for AG services.

Describe:

Please add any additional information describing your reason for referring this student:

Please check the following characteristics and factors that describe this student:

CHARACTERISTICS:

Leadership
☐ Shows initiative and independence
☐ Accepts and carries responsibility
☐ Influences peers

Motivation
☐ Persistent in tasks
☐ Keen interest in a variety of topics and activities
☐ Concerned with right and wrong; fairness

Creativity
☐ Is curious
☐ Shows imagination
☐ Has a keen sense of humor

Academic Performance
☐ Knowledgeable on a variety of topics
☐ Is observant
☐ Uses an advanced vocabulary & asks questions

OTHER FACTORS:

Attends Title 1 School?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Limited English Proficient
☐ Student is LEP & enrolled in EL services
☐ Former LEP student who is being monitored

Participation in EC Services
☐ Student enrolled in EC services
☐ Former EC student

Please share any additional information which would help us better understand this student

Please return completed form to the AIG teacher at the child's school.

Step 2:

Students in the screening pool continue

identification process:

- Iowa Assessments in math and reading

- Anticipated testing window is:

  February 7, 2025 - March 28, 2025.

Elementary AG Pull-Out Services

MAP
- Build reading, math and/or aptitude skills; continued focus on critical thinking

AG
- Extend grade level unit standards through depth and complexity, rigorous tasks and problem-based learning

AIG
- AG service + interdisciplinary extension and enrichment that builds upon student aptitude and interest

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Academically Gifted (AG)

- **Eligibility Criteria**
  - 85%ile or higher in math and/or reading
    - AM = AG in math only
    - AR = AG in reading only
    - AG = AG in both

- **Service Model**
  - Pull-out enrichment
  - 90 minutes per week in each area of eligibility

- **Important to Note**
  - Eligibility is reported in PowerSchool
  - Students are reviewed annually for add-on eligibility

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Academically and Intellectually Gifted (AIG)

- **Eligibility Criteria**
  - 90%ile or higher aptitude AND
  - 90%ile or higher math AND
  - 90%ile or higher reading
  - **OR**
  - 90%ile or higher aptitude AND
  - 90%ile or higher math **or** reading AND
  - 85-89%ile in other achievement + Performance Task

- **Service Model**
  - Pull-out enrichment
  - 90 minutes per week in each area of eligibility (Tier 2)
  - At least 40 minutes per week of supplemental enrichment that builds upon student aptitude

- **Important to Note**
  - Eligibility is reported in PowerSchool

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Intellectually Gifted Services

- **Eligibility Criteria**
  - 98%ile aptitude **composite**

- **Service Model**
  - Determined annually by the school's Team for Academically Gifted
  - May include:
    - Pull-out intellectual enrichment OR
    - Maximizing Academic Potential (MAP) OR
    - Consultative services to support differentiation by the regular education teacher

- **Important to Note**
  - Eligibility is reported in PowerSchool
  - Intent of service is to identify and address reasons for gap between aptitude and achievement

Advanced Learner Services

- **Eligibility Criteria**
    - In schools where between 1-5 students are identified as Academically Gifted, students scoring 80-84%ile in math and/or reading may participate in AG pull-out enrichment as an Advanced Learner based on TAG review and AG Department approval

- **Service Model**
    - Pull-out enrichment in math and/or reading 90 minutes per week

- **Important to Note**
    - Eligibility is not reported in PowerSchool
    - Eligibility is reviewed annually by the school's Team for Academically Gifted

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Service Documentation

Parent notification of Eligibility or Non-Eligibility

- Student Eligibility Record (SER)
- Parent notification letter

AG pull-out service begins during the first quarter of third grade.

Screening Windows

Annual screening grades 3-7

- Grade 3 BOG achievement levels are automatically reviewed and considered for eligibility
- EOG achievement levels are automatically reviewed and considered for eligibility

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Stay in the Know!

AG teacher

- Informational meetings

- Parent/teacher conferences

- Newsletters

GCS website

Team for Academically Gifted (TAG)

The GCS Partners for the Advancement of Gifted Education

(PAGE) chapter - "Guilford Gifted"

NC Association for Gifted and Talented (NCAGT)

National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC)

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What Next?

Be on the lookout for an email from Guilford Parent Academy the recording of ***Understanding the GCS AG Identification Process*** for your reference.

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County Schools

AG Dept Contact Information

AG Director:

Dibrelle Tourret

AG Coordinator:

Kelly Woody

AG Lead Teachers:

Barry McDougald

Tia Thompson

Office Support:

Joanne Williams

Office Phone Number: 336-370-8361

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Reminder: Submit A Question

Elementary Submit a Question to the AG Department

Final Reminders

- The recording of this presentation will be available via the AG Department website by 5:00pm 11/18/2024.
- www.gcsnc.com → Departments → Academically Gifted

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