

**Zionsville Community Schools
Advanced Curriculum/Instruction
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION PLAN**

In Zionsville Community Schools students who are identified as needing advanced curriculum and/or instruction in grades K-8 math are advanced at least one grade level in content while also provided with enrichment activities that challenge students to collaborate and think creatively about solving real world problems. Students who are identified as needing advanced curriculum and/or instruction in grades K-8 language arts are provided advanced content through the Indiana State High Ability Units, William and Mary advanced units and are mentored to read challenging reading material and write with more advanced craft during Reading and Writing Workshop. Students in these grades are also given the opportunity to focus on their passions in Problem Based Learning units.

Curriculum and Instruction

- Content is conceptually focused and is both accelerated and enriched.
- Materials used are written at levels of complexity appropriate for students with higher instructional needs.
- Standards include many that are above grade level.
- Instruction is focused on the development of critical and creative thinking.
- Students are given opportunities to pursue individual areas of choice.
- Collaboration and communication skills are developed through daily group work.

Assessment and Planning

- Assessments call for demonstration of advanced understanding and the skills of synthesis, analysis, and evaluation.
- Pre-assessment of prior knowledge for the purposes of planning for differentiation of instruction as well as determining growth over time
- Conceptual focus and interdisciplinary connections are incorporated.
- Teachers focus on above grade reading skills through the selections of novels and passages from above grade materials or through materials that are more complex or in-depth.
- Critical thinking skills through the use of models such as Paul's Reasoning and Socratic Seminars are woven into instruction.
- Creative problem solving skills through the selection of real world problems or issues and through the use of models such as Creative Problem Solving (CPS), Problem Based Learning (PBL), and the Spark Problem Solving Process area focus in planning.
- Metacognitive skills are enhanced through peer and self-evaluation and the use of rubrics.