

Fast Facts about Gifted at Cypress Woods

A+ School

- ★ A+ School for 18 consecutive years
- ★ 5 Star School for 21 years
- ★ Number #1 Traditional Elementary School in Pinellas County
- ★ Florida School of Excellence

Enrichment

- ★ Mighty Mu (grades 4-5)
- ★ Gifted Math Meet (grades 4-5)
- ★ Battle of the Books (gr. 4-5)
- ★ IC3 Spark (grade 5)
- ★ Small Math Group (grades 4-5)
- ★ Beginning and Advanced Strings
- ★ Drum and Orff
- ★ STEM Academy- 8 groups (2-5)
- ★ Gifted Creativity Olympics (2-3)
- ★ HoPS: Hands-On Problem Solving
- ★ National Elementary Honors Society
- ★ Gardening Club
- ★ LEGO Club
- ★ Spanish Club
- ★ Beach Club
- ★ Chorus

Gifted Clustering

Cypress Woods has been gifted clustering students in grades 3-5 for the last eleven years. The definition of Gifted Clustering according to the National Association of Gifted Children (NAGC): A grouping assignment for gifted students in the regular heterogeneous classroom. Typically, five or six gifted students with similar needs, abilities or interests are “clustered” in the same classroom, which allows the teacher to more efficiently differentiate assignments for a group of advanced learners rather than just one or two students. Our school finds that these clusters groups are highly beneficial to our gifted learners and we plan to continue with this process.

CWE Teachers

3

Gifted Endorsed Teachers

13

Teachers working on their endorsement

4

Teachers who have Completed the Gifted Micro-Credential

3

Teachers working on the Gifted Micro-Credential (a course to learn more about working with Gifted students)

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Collaboration

The Gifted teachers at CWE actively collaborate with the general education teachers to best meet the needs of their gifted students. The gifted teachers attend PLC meetings and curriculum trainings to keep up with what is being taught in the grade-level classrooms. While the gifted curriculum is very different than what is found in gen. ed., the gifted teachers infuse grade-level standards into their lessons. All 3-5 grade general education teachers that have a gifted cluster are working toward obtaining their gifted endorsement. Therefore, they are learning strategies to differentiation instruction and to create an ideal learning environment for gifted learners.

SEM

SEM has been a part of Cypress Woods for eleven years. This amazing program has given students the opportunity to pursue areas of passion and learn about different topics not regularly found in the general education classroom. Within Pinellas County, one of the few schools offering this unique platform. We are proud to say we are one of the schools that has been partaking in SEM the longest!

Curriculum

In the gifted classroom, students work on the seven Gifted Outcome Goals. These goals include:

- ★ Organizing Information
- ★ Creating, Adapting & Assessing Questions
- ★ Research
- ★ Creative and Critical Thinking
- ★ Leadership
- ★ Goal Setting
- ★ Creation of Authentic Products

Through various thematic units like Rainforests, Exploring the Oceans, Caravans Around the World and Space Exploration, students work on each of these goals. They practice these skills while learning to SCAMPER their thinking and stretch their creativity by working on fluency, flexibility, originality and elaboration. Student “don” many hats in the gifted classroom. They learn to think about situations from various perspectives, analyze the short and long-term consequences and consider all factors of a problem. All lessons in the Cypress Woods’ gifted classrooms focus on real-world problems/situations so that students as young as five are already practicing skills needed for the future work force.