

ADVANCED CONTENT FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

An Overview



ADVANCED LEARNING
ENRICHMENT. EXTENSION. EXPERIENCES.

The Advanced Content Model

- Homogeneous grouping on the basis of academic performance/achievement in a specific academic content area
- Classes include gifted and highly-able students who have demonstrated exceptional ability and motivation in a particular content area.
- Placement is determined by multiple criteria.



Advanced Content vs. Target

- The AC model does not impact the Target resource model.
- Not all gifted students may qualify for AC courses at the elementary level.
- Not all AC students qualify for gifted services.



Placement Criteria

- Class performance in math and ELA
- Academic motivation
- Achievement (determined by IOWA and Milestone)
- Ability (determined by CogAT)



Course and Grade Level Availability*

- 4th Grade Advanced ELA/Reading
- 4th Grade Advanced Math
- 5th Grade Advanced ELA/Reading
- 5th Grade Advanced Math

*Check with your local school to determine which courses are offered.



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How Does Instruction Differ in Advanced Content?

- Performance tasks that extend grade-level standards and expectations
- Accelerated pacing of spiraled material
- Introduction to some above grade-level standards and concepts
- Instructional strategies for advanced learners will be utilized



Classroom Assessments and Grades

- Mastery of content demonstrated through performance on rigorous performance tasks, projects, and tests
- Students may face new and more frequent challenges.
- There may be a first quarter adjustment period.
- A growth mindset and preparation for more rigorous coursework throughout an educational career more powerful than elementary grades



Struggling Students

- Students must maintain a quarterly average of $\geq 80\%$.
- Students not meeting this performance criteria will be put on probation and have 9 weeks/1 quarter to improve their average.
- AC teacher works with student and parent/guardian to provide appropriate support and intervention.
- AC services may be discontinued for the remainder of the year if the child does not successfully meet probation requirements (improving average to $\geq 80\%$).
- Parent/guardian may withdraw child from AC for remainder of year at any time.
- AC placement will be reconsidered the following school year.



How Can I Help My Child At Home?

- Ask your child open-ended questions about what they are learning.
- Encourage your child to draw connections to real life problems and experiences.
- Get him/her involved in after-school activities that enhance strengths and interests.
- Balance high expectations with a growth mindset.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



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Is There Reciprocity for AC courses Among Cobb Schools?

- Yes, when the receiving school is providing Advanced Content courses, there is available space in the Advanced Content class, and the student was successful in the Advanced Content course(s) at the previous school.



What is the Continuation Criteria From 4th to 5th Grade?

- Yearly average of 80% or higher in the AC course
- Score of “Proficient” or “Distinguished” on the Milestones in the correlating AC course



Will My Child Automatically Qualify for Advanced Content in Middle School?

- No, middle school Advanced Content criteria and placement is a local school decision.
- Questions regarding the placement criteria for local feeder schools should be addressed directly to the middle school.

