Advanced Content for Elementary Students

An Overview

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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.

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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.**

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Course and Grade Level Availability

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

Placement Criteria

ADVANCED LEARNING
ACADEMIC RIGOR
ADVANCED CONTENT & EXTENSION

Advanced Content in Elementary School

What are the recommended guidelines for 4th grade placement?

It is strongly recommended that students have an IOWA *Total Reading or Total Math* percentile score of 80% or higher.
Students with an EOG designation of *Basic* or *Developing* are not eligible to participate.

AC Reading/ELA –

All 3 criteria must be met.

Descriptor	Criteria
Class performance	'3' or '3+' - yearly average in 3rd grade Reading
Achievement	90 - 99th %ile Total Reading on 3rd grade IOWA **OR** Distinguished learner designation on Milestones in English Language Arts **OR** Spring Beacon ELA score ≥ 505 (Milestones predictive score of distinguished)
Ability	85 - 99th %ile Verbal age percentile on 3rd grade CogAT

AC Math –

All 3 criteria must be met.

Descriptor	Criteria
Class performance	'3' or '3+'- yearly average in 3rd grade Math
Achievement	90 - 99th %ile Total Math on 3rd grade IOWA **OR** Distinguished learner designation on Milestones in Math **OR** Spring Beacon Math score ≥ 446 (Milestones predictive score of distinguished)
Ability	85 - 99th %ile Quantitative age percentile on 3rd grade CogAT

What are the recommended guidelines for continued placement from 4th to 5th grade AC?

Descriptor	Criteria
Class performance	80-100% yearly average
Milestones	Proficient or Distinguished learner designation in the AC course subject

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Placement Criteria

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Advanced Content in Elementary School

What are the recommended guidelines for 5th grade placement?

It is strongly recommended that students have an IOWA Total Reading or Total Math percentile score of 80% or higher.
Students with an EOG designation of Basic or Developing are not eligible to participate.

AC Reading/ELA –

All 3 criteria must be met.

Descriptor	Criteria
Class performance	90-100% - yearly average in 4th grade Reading
Achievement	90 - 99th %ile Total Reading on most recent IOWA **OR** Distinguished learner designation on Milestones in English Language Arts **OR** Spring Beacon ELA score $\geq$ 530 (Milestones predictive score of distinguished)
Ability	85 - 99th %ile Verbal age percentile on 3rd grade CogAT

AC Math –

3 criteria must be met.

Descriptor	Criteria
Class performance	90-100% - yearly average in 4th grade Math
Achievement	90 - 99th %ile Total Math on most recent IOWA **OR** Distinguished learner designation on Milestones in Math **OR** Spring Beacon Math score $\geq$ 477 (Milestones predictive score of distinguished)
Ability	85 - 99th %ile Quantitative age percentile on most recent CogAT

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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
- Instructional strategies for advanced learners

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ELA Advanced Content

- Weighty Words
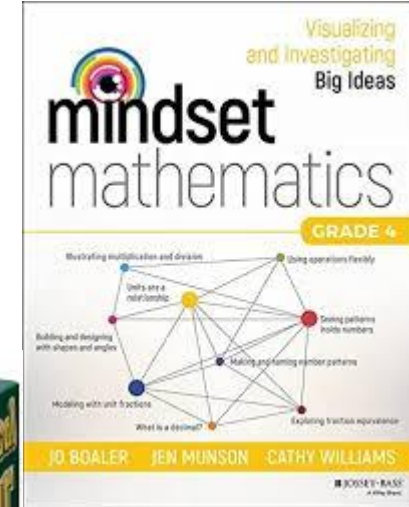- Jacob's Ladder (F & NF)
- Novel Studies
- Daily Mind Builders
- RBQ

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Math Advanced Content

- Exemplars
- Mindset Mathematics
- Performance/Extension Tasks
- Mathalogical Liar
- Rubix Cube

Struggling Students

- Students must maintain a quarterly average of ≥ 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 ≥ 80%).
- Parent/guardian may withdraw child from AC for remainder of year at any time.
- AC placement will be reconsidered the following school year.

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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.

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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.**

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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.

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Thank you for your support!

Questions? Reach out to Dr. Fossum
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