

Other Interesting Facts

Destination ImagiNation (**DI**) is coordinated through our Gifted Program, and many of the PACE students participate. It is an international, creative problem-solving competition open to all PISD students in grades K-12. It is a team competition. For current information visit the National Web Site <http://www.destinationimagination.org> or the State Web Site for updates at <http://www.texasdi.org/next/indexhtm>. You can also visit the PISD DI web site at <http://k-12.pisd.edu/currinst/pace/pace91di.html> or contact me.



For more information on PACE visit our web site at <http://k-12.pisd.edu/currinst/pace>.

2007-2008

Testing Schedule 2007-2008

Referral Deadlines:

Kdg. : Dec. 14, 2007

Gr. 1-5: Feb. 29, 2008

Testing Begins:

Kdg.: Jan. 8 - 30, 2008

Gr. 1-5: Mar. 3 - Apr. 11, 2008

Plano's Academic and Creative Education

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Barksdale Elementary

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General Information

Kindergarten:

There is no kindergarten identification for PACE until the second semester. Prior to that, activities are taught by the classroom teachers to aid in identifying students who might be referred for the January testing period. After the testing is completed those kindergarteners who have been identified are served by the GT certified classroom teachers.

Grades 1-5

All grades work on a variety of skills (brainstorming, scamper techniques, etc.) with the designated classroom PACE teachers as well as the PACE specialist in a pullout program. Technology is strongly emphasized throughout these grades involving Internet research, writing programs, Power Point presentations, and programming.

SIGS—Summer Institute for Gifted and Talented:

This program is available to the children in PACE during the summer. It offers creative activities in math, science, simulations in language arts and social studies, foreign languages, technology, music and art. There is a tuition charged; some scholarships available. Informational packets usually go out in late February/early March.

Grade Level Information

FIRST GRADE:

The required unit of study is "Think About It More", which introduces a variety of thinking strategies including SCAMPER and FFOE. We start the year with "Think About It".

SECOND GRADE:

The required unit of study is "The Great PACE Race", which focuses on research from multiple sources, geography of the world, and problem solving and science activities as well as an introduction into technology-based presentations. Other unit choices are "If the Shoe Fits...", a unit on figurative language (idioms).

THIRD GRADE:

Their required unit is "Somewhere Out There", a complex, interdisciplinary study of astronomy. Other units choices are "Innovation Simulation", and "Logic and Reasoning", which develops deductive reasoning through logic matrix problems.

FOURTH GRADE:

Their required unit of study is "RUD2", which uses scientific thinking and variable manipulation for an interdisciplinary study of the basic principles of robots, including programming and building a Lego robot to perform specified tasks. We will start the year with the unit "Architecture", including basic elements, research, and problem solving.

Grade Level Information

FIFTH GRADE:

There are two required units of study: "The Pen Is Mightier Than the Sword", a poetry unit, and "We the People", a law unit on the First, Fourth, and Fifth Amendments

Mrs. Kane's students are the best!