

Parent Orientation

2019-2020

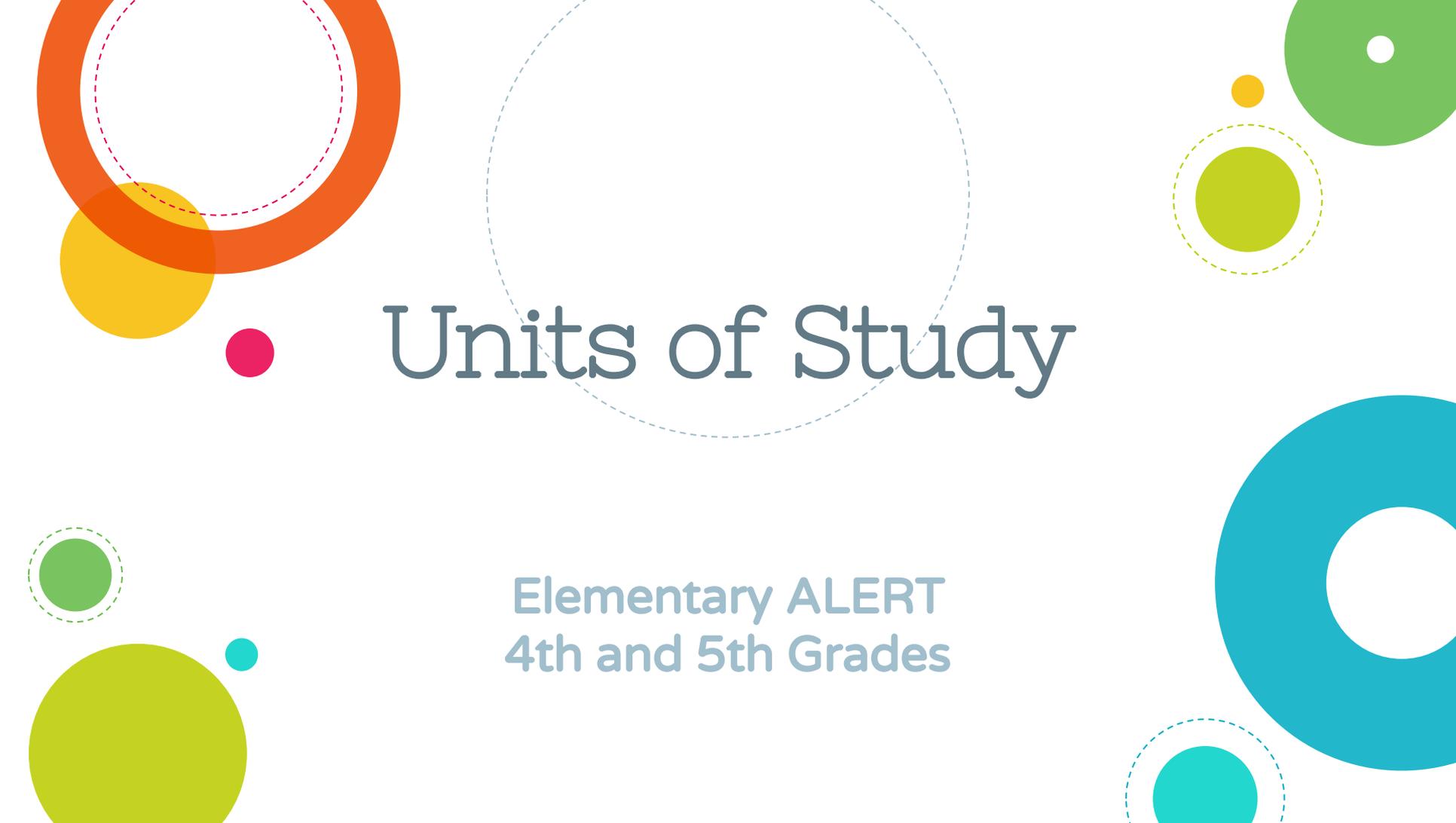


Welcome

We are excited to be working with your 4th and 5th grade students this year.

ALERT students have the opportunity to participate in a fundraiser through Iron Brew Coffee in order to help raise funds for our program. Coffee orders are due on your child's ALERT day the week of September 30th - October 4th.

Our goal for the remainder of the evening is for you to become familiar with our units of study and what you can expect out of ALERT this year.

The background features several decorative elements: a large orange ring with a dashed white inner circle in the top left; a large yellow circle partially overlapping the orange ring; a large pink circle to the left of the title; a large dashed light blue circle behind the title; a large green circle with a white dot in the top right; a smaller yellow circle above a dashed green circle in the top right; a large teal ring in the bottom right; a dashed green circle with a green dot in the bottom left; a large green circle with a dashed white inner circle in the bottom left; a small teal dot to the right of the large green circle in the bottom left; and a dashed teal circle with a teal dot in the bottom right.

Units of Study

Elementary ALERT
4th and 5th Grades

Change



Change is our big theme for the year. Understanding that all things change over time helps us to live in an ever-changing world.

Change in Humanity's Habitat

Focus on Architecture

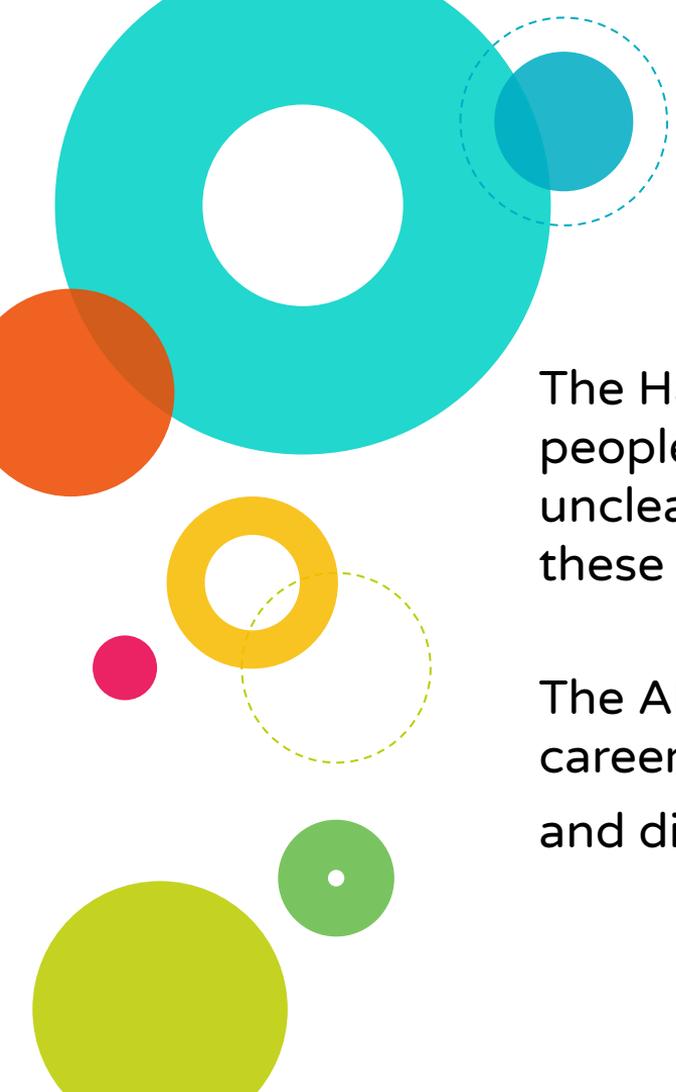
M3 Math - Getting Into Shapes! M3 is a curriculum written specifically for gifted learners.

We will take a look at geometry, scale and measurement to go along with our unit of study on architecture.

Each student will construct a scale model house in this unit.

We are excited to be using a Cricut Machine to help us with this process. Students will be able to blueprint on the computer like an architect and then have their house cut out by the machine.





Habits of Mind

The Habits of Mind are a set of 16 thinking skills that people use to solve problems when the way forward is unclear. Identified by Arthur Costa and Bena Kallick, these habits are traits of successful decision makers.

The ALERT program wants to prepare students for careers that haven't been invented yet and these skills and dispositions will help them face future challenges.

<p>Persisting</p>  <p>I keep trying.</p>	<p>Managing Impulsivity</p>  <p>I think before I act.</p>	<p>Listening with Understanding and Empathy</p>  <p>I listen carefully to understand what someone is saying and feeling.</p>	<p>Thinking Flexibly</p>  <p>Sometimes I try a different way.</p>
<p>Thinking About Your Thinking</p>  <p>I'm aware of what I'm thinking.</p>	<p>Striving for Accuracy</p>  <p>I try many ways to check my work.</p>	<p>Questioning and Problem Posing</p>  <p>I ask thoughtful questions.</p>	<p>Applying Past Knowledge to New Situations</p>  <p>I use what I have learned in new situations.</p>
<p>Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision</p>  <p>I choose my words carefully.</p>	<p>Gathering Data through All Senses</p>  <p>I pay attention to the world around me.</p>	<p>Creating, Imagining and Innovating</p>  <p>I like to use my imagination.</p>	<p>Responding with Wonderment and Awe</p>  <p>I search for something amazing in everything I see.</p>
<p>Taking Responsible Risks</p>  <p>I take safe risks.</p>	<p>Finding Humor</p>  <p>I try to laugh every day.</p>	<p>Thinking Interdependently</p>  <p>I work well with others.</p>	<p>Remaining Open to Continuous Learning</p>  <p>I love to learn.</p>

The Mindsets

"Failure is an
opportunity to grow"

GROWTH MINDSET

"I can learn to do anything I want"

"Challenges help me to grow"

"My effort and attitude
determine my abilities"

"Feedback is constructive"

"I am inspired by the success of others"

"I like to try
new things"

Renzulli Learning

“identifies student academic strength areas, interests, learning styles, and modes of expression, and then matches each student with thousands of personalized high interest, engaging enrichment activities” (RL)

My Enrichment Activities Search Enrichment Activities

Here are some enrichment activities that might interest you. Click any of the icons below to view the activities:

- Check this box to view your favorites and your teacher favorites only!
- Don't show links that require Adobe Flash

127 Activities Virtual Field Trips	556 Activities Real Field Trips	187 Activities Creativity Training	636 Activities Critical Thinking	628 Activities Projects & Independent Study	24 Activities Contests & Competitions	1150 Activities Websites
127 Activities Fiction (Books & E-Books)	92 Activities Non-Fiction (Books & E-Books)	72 Activities How-to (Books & E-Books)	141 Activities Summer Programs	2375 Activities On-line Activities & Classes	744 Activities Research Sites	85 Activities Videos & DVDs

A decorative graphic featuring a large, light blue dashed circle that frames the central text. Various solid-colored circles in shades of teal, blue, green, yellow, orange, and pink are scattered around the perimeter. Some circles are solid, while others are dashed outlines. A large teal ring is in the top left, a yellow ring is in the bottom right, and a green ring with a white dot is in the bottom left.

Field Studies



ALL ALERT Field Study Buses will leave from and return to:
Sandhills Shopping Center- Fashion Drive

In the fall we will visit historic Charleston where we will:

- ★ Visit the Charleston Museum and take an architecture class.
- ★ Take a walking tour of the historic district surrounding the museum.
- ★ Tour a historic home.
- ★ Visit the Clemson Design Center in Charleston and participate in a hands-on project with graduate architecture students.
- ★ Cost is \$70 and includes lunch from Honey Baked Ham



In the spring we will visit the US National Whitewater Center where we will:

- ★ Hike down a trail to the Catawba River and participate in a debate about hydroelectric dams
- ★ Participate in a class related to human impacts on the environment
- ★ Participate in one of their fun activities (either a low ropes or one of the new zip lines)

Specific dates will be coming soon!



Cost will be \$70 and includes lunch from the Whitewater Center.

You can expect:

- ① Your child to be challenged in our classes.
- ② To see an ALERT folder. This should be brought back to ALERT each week.
- ③ An email newsletter with updates.

Communication

- ◎ We serve multiple schools, **email** is the best way to contact us.
- ◎ Remind App - We use an app called remind. This app allows us to send a quick text out to parents that have signed up. Please make sure you are signed up. This is how we will communicate during a field study.



A decorative graphic featuring a large, light blue dashed circle that frames the central text. Various colorful circles and rings are scattered around the page. At the top center, a large teal ring is partially visible. Below it, a teal circle contains the white text "66". To the left, there is a large lime green circle, a smaller green circle with a white center, and a small blue circle. To the right, there is a yellow circle, a small pink circle, and a large orange ring. At the bottom left, there is an orange circle, a small pink circle, and a yellow ring. At the bottom right, there is a lime green circle with a white center and a small teal circle.

66

Questions?