

Instructional “Look Fors” for Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

“Looks Fors” are observable, tangible evidence based on the Teaching and Learning Framework (TLF) focus elements and GATE policies and best practices.



Discussion
Techniques &
Student
Participation

3b2

What might 3b2 look like for GATE students?

- Discussion techniques and structures, e.g., Debate, Socratic Seminar, Philosophical Chairs
- Flexible grouping by academic readiness, interest, learning profile, and social-emotional needs for discussions
- Intellectually challenging discussions using the prompts of depth and complexity, e.g., ethics, multiple perspectives, trends, unanswered questions
- Open-ended questions and discussion topics that provide opportunities for intellectual struggle, ambiguity, risk-taking, and critical/creative thinking
- Safe and supportive physical and philosophical environment that promotes inquiry and collaboration
- Strategies and topics that affirm students’ rings of culture and language



Standards
Based
Projects,
Activities &
Assignments

3c1

What might 3c1 look like for GATE students?

- Accelerated or above-grade-level content or application of standards
- Curriculum compacting
- Future ready skills and instructional technology
- Independent study
- Interest-based learning and student choice (connected to standards)
- Learning/interest centers
- Novel products
- Project-based learning
- Prompts of depth and complexity
- Tiered lessons
- Universal themes and big ideas



Purposeful &
Productive
Instructional
Groups

3c2

What might 3c2 look like for GATE students?

- Cluster grouping
- Curriculum compacting
- Flexible grouping by academic readiness, interest, learning profile, and social-emotional needs for group projects/tasks
- Interest-based learning and student choice (connected to standards)
- Learning/interest centers
- Project-based learning
- Tiered lessons

NOTE: Kagan cooperative grouping strategies may need to be modified to meet the needs of gifted or high ability learners who need accelerated pacing, content, and discourse.