

Extempore – Cool Stuff Inside: The Body

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I. OVERALL UNIT CONCEPTS

This ten week major unit focuses on creative problem solving through the human body and its systems.

II. UNIT RATIONALE

Extempore meets the Missouri Show-Me Standards, MAP goals & Major Instructional Goals (MIGS) for the district.

Extempore is a primary course of study designed to meet the following needs of gifted children:

- the need for access to challenging curriculum
- the need for interaction with intellectual peers
- the need for opportunity to encounter and use increasingly difficult vocabulary and concepts
- the need to be allowed to solve problems in diverse ways
- the need to experiment with varieties of materials and ideas
- the need to develop skills in evaluation, synthesis and decision making

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Each student in the class will be expected to successfully complete the following unit objectives in Extempore:

- The learner will gain knowledge of basic principles of the systems of the human body through active learning experiences
- The learner will gain knowledge of creative thinking strategies in order to solve challenging problems
- The learner will apply group problem solving techniques
- The learner will apply research skills
- The learner will gain knowledge of systems and their interdependence

IV. APPLIED THINKING SKILLS

In this unit the student will apply the following thinking skills:

- Creative thinking skills
- Analytical thinking skills
- Organizational thinking skills
- Critical thinking skills

V. APPLIED AFFECTIVE SKILLS

This unit lends itself to the use of collaborative teams. The interaction among students on each team provides for the application of group dynamic skills and conflict resolution strategies.

VI. STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Attend class each week.
2. Actively participate in class activities.
3. Ask for help or clarification when you don't understand something.
4. Communicate and cooperate with your team.
5. Do your part to help your team successfully complete the class activities.

VII. PARENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Read the syllabus.
2. See that your child attends class each week.
3. Show an interest in your child's activities in this unit.
4. Contact a teacher if you or your child has a question or concern.
5. If you are interested in volunteering in your child's group, please contact a 1st, 2nd or 3rd grade teacher.

VIII. ASSESSMENT

Each team will be performing a skit based on set parameters that displays creative thinking, creative problem solving skills and group dynamic skills.