



Gifted Association of Missouri

PO Box 181
Saint Joseph, MO 64502
mogam.org

Gifted Education Week in Missouri

February 10-14, 2025

Visit the State Capitol in Jefferson City on
Wednesday, February 19, 2025,
for GAM Day at the Capitol

Choose one (or more) activities below to celebrate



Gifted Education Week:

1. Offer to write an article on gifted education for the school board or district publication or for posting on the website. Students who are gifted in writing could do so as well.

2. Have students complete one of these statements, "Gifted education is _____." Or, "Giftedness is like _____."

Make the statements into posters.

3. Prepare a report of successes of the gifted education services in your school/school district. Ask to be placed on the March or April Board of Education agenda and/or school council agenda to present the report.
4. Prepare a scrapbook, focusing on gifted education. Include newspaper clippings about the services provided to gifted students. Let administrators, teachers, and parents check out the scrapbook. Display it in the local public library.
5. Conduct a gifted education slogan contest. Choose a slogan that describes gifted education in your district during Gifted Education Week. Use the slogan to decorate bulletin boards, classroom doors, newsletters, posters, store windows, etc.
6. Conduct a poster contest around a gifted education theme. Display posters around school and in local stores. Award prizes, if feasible.
7. Describe services for gifted children in a poem. Set the poem to music, using an original score or favorite tune. Record students reciting the poem and share on social media or a website.
8. Write essays on such topics as “Why gifted education is important,” and “Why I like being part of a gifted program,” etc. Submit the essays to magazines for publications.
9. Collect questions students and teachers have about gifted students and services. Answer the questions and publish your responses.
10. Prepare and distribute an agenda to parents, teachers, and administrators for special events related to Gifted Education Week.
11. Prepare a brochure titled, “What is gifted education?” or “This is gifted education in School District.” Distribute to community leaders.
12. Submit articles and pictures about gifted education, gifted students, and GAM to the local newspaper and/or school paper for each day during Gifted Education Week. Articles might include explanations on what Gifted Education Week is, your experience in the gifted program, activities for gifted students, etc.
13. Design a button, t-shirt, or flag about developing talents or your gifted program.
14. Each day of Gifted Education Week display a quote by a famous person.
15. Create puppets, props, and script to inform your audience about gifted education. Offer to PTO, Rotary, Lions Club, etc. as a program.
16. Contact your local library or other community facilities to request permission to create a display case of projects.

17. Study famous gifted people. Select a favorite. Depict that person in a vignette. Share interesting anecdotes with others. Dress up in period costume to be that person for a day. Wear your costume as you walk through town distributing brochures about services for gifted children, etc.
18. Plan an open-class day for your gifted classroom. Prepare a slide show or other presentation to portray your program. Write invitations to attend the “showing” to businesses, school board members, school council members, local press, etc.
19. Kick-off Gifted Education Week with a continental breakfast for school personnel who are supportive of appropriate services for gifted children.
20. Invite members of the Board of Education and/or School Council to visit your classroom during Gifted Education Week to see developing talents in action.
21. Sponsor a schoolwide activity, such as Career Day, International Day, etc.
22. Prepare a “Question of the Day” for each day of Gifted Education Week. Display the questions, so that all students may participate by doing research and handing in their answers. If feasible, offer prizes.
23. Create a brain teaser or trivia game to distribute to other classrooms.
24. Have students write predictions about themselves and their gifted classmates. Have them describe where they will be and what they will be doing in the year 2045. They should also respond to the questions: How did your gifted classes prepare you for the future? What more could have been done?
25. Conduct a “hats off” contest. Invent hats that represent outstanding gifted individuals by showing their characteristics, accomplishments, interests, etc.
26. Prepare a debate or panel discussion about a controversial aspect of gifted education.
27. Draw the ideal gifted classroom. Pretend you are not limited by money or space.
28. Design thought-provoking notebook stickers and attach them with clear contact paper.
29. Write similes and metaphors about gifted education.
30. Write “help wanted” ads for creative thinkers, problem solvers, and mentors. Write job descriptions for parents of the gifted, teachers of the gifted, etc.
31. Purchase newspapers. Have a local paper and a major paper. Highlight all articles that deal with education, giftedness, and gifted people.
32. Have students write and pre-record a 30-second public service announcement for broadcast on local radio or TV stations. Sharing on social media is another option.

33. Set-up an interview on a local radio or TV show to discuss gifted issues, local gifted services. Explain how schools identify and encourage gifted students and describe local or statewide efforts of GAM.
34. Ask local banks / businesses to advertise Gifted Education Week on their marquee or computerized signs.
35. Present the superintendent, President of the Board of Education, and/or building principal/s with framed certificates of appreciation to hang in their offices or in the central office.
36. Prepare a packet of creative ideas for use in the regular classroom.
37. Write letters to the editor, thanking school board members and/or school council members for their support of gifted education.
38. Contact the advertising sales department of the local newspaper in advance about reserving a whole page for a special Gifted Education Week ad. Approach local merchants about purchasing a portion of the page for their own message, saluting gifted education.
39. Contact the Mayor to get a proclamation signed about Gifted Education Week. Call the Mayor's office to find out the necessary procedure. Make a ceremony out of the signing and have photographs taken. County judges/legislators will also sign proclamations. Make a publicity event of the signing. Call the local media to cover or take your own photographs. Make photographs available to local newspapers along with an article on gifted education.
40. Inform your local newspaper, radio, or TV about Gifted Education Week. Ask them to feature what's happening in your school district to meet the needs of gifted students.
41. Arrange an appointment with an administrator, school board member, or school council member to share outstanding aspects of gifted education.
42. Plan a workshop about a relevant aspect of gifted education for teachers, administrators, school board members, and school council members.
43. Create a newsletter for parents and community groups, describing gifted education in your district. Have information about GAM and an agenda for Gifted Education Week.
44. Invite a panel of gifted graduates to discuss pros and cons of their gifted program experiences.
45. Hold an "Open House" for parents, administrators, teachers, school board members, school council members, and community leaders. This would be a great forum for

students' speeches, skits, demonstrations, etc. Information about GAM and special student programs could also be made available. A carry-in dinner or snack would complement the evening.

46. Arrange to speak to parent groups (PTA, PTO, Clubs) and other community groups, such as the Lion's Club or other service organizations about the purpose of gifted education. Include a slide presentation or prerecorded presentation, if appropriate.
47. Teach a six to ten week classroom on a topic or book you enjoy. (Ex: *Guiding the Gifted Child* by James Webb) Begin or end the class during Gifted Education Week.
48. Write a letter to someone who inspired you to teach gifted students. Say, "Thanks!"
49. Write your legislators. Urge them to continue to support gifted education in Missouri.
50. Prepare crates or folders of materials on various topics of interest to parents of the gifted (ex: sibling relationships, underachievement, and summer opportunities). Be sure the materials are all checked out during Gifted Education Week.
51. Check the public library for current books on "gifted" or "gifted education." Talk with the librarian about purchasing books on the topics (be prepared with a list of suggested books.) Make a request to a parent group to purchase books on giftedness for the public library. Make a public presentation to the librarian.
52. Call the local media to cover your special activities or take your own photographs and do a write-up. Make available to local newspapers along with an article on gifted education.
53. Divide a classroom into groups. Challenge each group to plan a bulletin board for Gifted Education Week. Emphasize that this is a planning session only. Let it evolve naturally. Allow the students 15 minutes to plan and prepare an oral presentation of their ideas to the class. Have the groups share their ideas. Let the class select one for implementation. (This activity could be a lead in to a study of leadership in relation to a task.)
54. Create and share a Summer Gifted Camp brochure.
55. Create a meme about being gifted or about your gifted program. Display in your classroom, hallway, etc.
56. Plan a trip with students and parents to attend GAM Day at the Capitol in Jefferson City on Wednesday, February 21, 2024.
57. Make a list of other ideas to help celebrate Gifted Education Week.

Quick Tip: Collaborate with communications/public relations professionals

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Many school districts have a staff member in charge of communications, social media, and/or public relations. Reach out to this colleague and share your ideas on Gifted Education Week.