

# What is Encore?

The MNPS Encore Program offers an instructional experience designed specifically for intellectually gifted and academically talented learners.



The curriculum is hands-on, interactive, and problem-based with a focus on developing students' critical and creative thinking abilities. Instruction is interdisciplinary and aligned with Tennessee content standards.

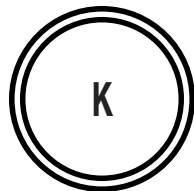
The MNPS Encore Program values the creative, emotional, & social needs of a diverse population of gifted & academically talented students through the engagement of a rigorous curriculum.

**Encore offers summer camp for identified Encore students!**

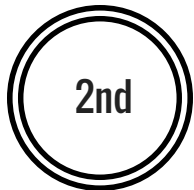
## How are students identified for Encore?



Contact the Office of Exceptional Education for a testing packet: (615) 687 - 4551, x665702. However, if your child is at an MNPS Early Learning Center, contact the School Counselor for a Support Team.



Students are referred for assessment by school data teams based on their reading/math abilities & gifted characteristics. Assessments take place in the spring.



New for 17 - 18! Every 2nd grade student in a traditional MNPS school will be universally screened for Encore in late October.



Students are referred for assessment based on their academic performance. Assessments take place in the fall.

### Intellectually Gifted

Parents, guardians, & others can request that students be screened for Intellectual Giftedness at any point in the school year. Ask your child's teacher for a Support Team meeting.

## FAST FACTS

- K-8 Encore classes are available at every MNPS elementary & middle school!
- Pre-K Encore classes are available at Robertson Academy & Ross Early Learning Center.
- Students must be identified as intellectually gifted or academically talented in order to qualify for the Encore Program.
- Encore classes are taught by Advanced Academics Resource Teachers (AARTs) who specialize in gifted & talented education.
- Encore classes meet during the school day at your child's school - for free.
- Encore students study interdisciplinary, inquiry-based units.

# Typical Characteristics

## of Gifted Students

- Unbridled curiosity
- Exceptional memory
- Committed to projects
- Eagerness to know "how" & "why"
- Vast wealth of general knowledge
- Keen understanding of the ways humans interact
- Sensitivity to the emotions of others
- Able to grasp abstract concepts
- Pays attention to details when making observations
- Advanced sense of humor
- Early ability to hone in on specific interests
- Extensive vocabulary
- Ability & preference to hold conversation with adults
- Able to learn quickly (1-2 repetitions)
- Impatience with repetitive tasks
- Frequent elaboration in art & writing
- Perfectionist tendencies
- Able to make unusual connections

Adapted from NAGC

# ENCORE

## Contact Information

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#### FIND US ONLINE!

[mnps.org/gifted-and-talented](http://mnps.org/gifted-and-talented)  
Twitter: @MNPSEncore  
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## Gifted & Talented Program



### Robertson Academy

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