Delta Middle School is gearing up for a busy schedule of activities for their Gifted and Talented (GT) kids! Taking field trips is an excellent way to not only provide a learning opportunity, but to plant a seed of “learning outside the box”.

January 9th  Chemistry lab with Mrs. Varner @ DMS
January 15th  Tour of a recycling center in Grand Junction, and visit a climbing wall
January 22  Dissecting a sheep’s brain with Ms. Couch
January 28  Tour of Colorado Mesa University
January 30  Tour of Colorado Mesa University

Cedaredge High School Internship Program

Cedaredge High School recently announced the development of an internship program. Not solely focused on the Gifted and Talented population, but absolutely geared towards it. The intent of the program is to place high school students in the community for opportunities to explore a career path that they may be interested in. The intern program will also help make learning relevant – to utilize academic knowledge in a workplace environment, as well as to provide an opportunity to network with professionals. The program also allows for better involvement the expertise of our community in our school.

Paonia Elementary School GT program explores Engine-uity

All of the students in Paonia Elementary’s GT program this year are currently 6th graders. This year they have started a program...
where students are working on self-directed projects. They have been able to choose from an assortment of Engine-uity Units. Students were able to choose a project based on their area of giftedness, and interests. Students are highly motivated and excited to attend this group, which meets twice a week at the end of the day. These projects will be displayed during the GT showcase, later this spring. Jennie Chavez is helping to lead these talented students in their creations.

**Delta High School Provides Resources and Information on GT Opportunities**

**DMEA National Rural Youth Electric Tour – application due January 10**

(Current sophomores & juniors.) *Tour takes place the week of June 12-19, 2014.* Applicants must be at least 16 years old at the time of the trip, but have not graduated from high school; AND live in a household that receives electricity from DMEA. Students spend an all-expenses paid week touring Washington D.C., attending seminars, touring monuments and museums, and visiting state representatives. Applications available in the Counseling Office or online at [www.dmea.com](http://www.dmea.com)

**DMEA Youth Leadership Camp – application due January 10**

July 13-18, 2014 at Glen Eden Resort in Steamboat Springs, CO. A six week leadership camp that includes hands-on leadership, local outings that include rafting, energy simulations, mine tours, and meeting new leaders from around the state. To apply you must complete the DMEA National Rural Youth Electric Tour (Washing DC app) at [www.dmea.com](http://www.dmea.com).

**Center for Bright Kids Summer Programs – CO School of Mines**

A variety of summer programs for bright, high interest, and high ability students. Residential focused experiences offer a fresh start with peers, and enables students to feel accepted and share experiences with other gifted youth. Students have unique interactions, exchange ideas, and build friendships with a diverse group of individuals in an inquiry-driven, hands-on learning environment that provides space to take risks and think differently. For a full schedule of programs and applications visit [http://www.centerforbrightkids.org](http://www.centerforbrightkids.org)

**Additional GT Resources:**

- Western Colorado Assoc. for Gifted & Talented [http://www.gifted51.org/](http://www.gifted51.org/)
- The Davidson Institute [http://www.davidsongifted.org](http://www.davidsongifted.org)
Cedaredge Middle School’s Climbing Wall Project

The GT students at Cedaredge Middle School have had a busy fall! As a group, the GT students have been working on the Climbing Wall Project since the beginning of the school year. Students have been meeting twice a week to research, plan, collaborate with each other and CMS staff, conduct a cost analysis of the proposed climbing wall designs, gather input from the Cedaredge community, and present their proposal to school board members and district administration. This multifaceted project is ongoing, with students taking field trips to experience area climbing walls, and to inspect and gain an understanding of a variety of building materials and designs. The latest field trip focused on the benefits and differences of both steel and wood structures, helping the students as they prepare to submit the school’s drawings to the State for initial approval. As the school year progresses, CMS GT students will continue to explore the processes of project design and implementation, plan for upcoming fundraising and publicity campaigns, and learn how to make the climbing wall benefit the Cedaredge community as a whole. Our GT students are excited about this project, and very optimistic that they will begin to see the fruits of their labor by the end of the 2013-14 school year!

In addition to their hard work on the Climbing Wall project, CMS GT students have been busy participating in Knowledge Bowl, Science Olympiad, Math Counts and the statewide UNC Math Contest. CMS GT staff is also in the process of planning a series of career presentations by professionals from the community for our GT students, and hope to begin presentations in December. Finally, CMS GT students will be focusing on independent learning projects as we move into 2nd semester. It is a great time to be at CMS!

CMS Climbing Wall Field Trip
At NFCMS, North Fork Community Montessori School in Hotchkiss, we are able to have a resource room called the PURPLE ROOM. This room is a place for GT students to come and work on projects as well as Enrichment Opportunities.

One project that NFCMS has done for 4 years now is the KAA program, or Kids Are Authors. This is a program with Scholastic Publishing where children write and illustrate their own book.

This is a good project as it challenges the student in writing and creativity, yet the process of working in a team helps them with communication and social skills.

Four students are currently working on a book with a colors theme. They are working on poetry with unusual colors such as vermillion, chartreuse, and aquamarine. They will begin artwork soon.

Students involved are Sophia Lareau, Arjun Bacigalupi, Simon Cox, and Amelia Hickam.