



# SUPPORT FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS IDENTIFIED AS **GIFTED**

Collier County Public Schools (CCPS) Exceptional Education and Student Support Services (EESSS) has compiled information about organizations and resources to support the needs of students identified as gifted and high achieving. We encourage families to nurture the interests and strengths of students of all ages. We do realize that as a parent or guardian, it sometimes can be a daunting and time-consuming task to research available opportunities in the area. The providers included have indicated they offer programs and activities to children and youth.

## LOCAL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### ACADEMIC AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS ([neafamily.com/directory/ccps-activity-guides](http://neafamily.com/directory/ccps-activity-guides))

Neapolitan Family collaborates with CCPS to produce an Activities Guide listing academic and after-school programs. Published three times each year, this Activities Guide is available through your child's school in August, December, and April

### COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUMS ([colliermuseums.com](http://colliermuseums.com))

Locations in Everglades City, Immokalee, Marco Island, and Naples - 239.252.8476 Presents a variety of guided tours and programs to foster an appreciation and understanding of the history and development of our community

### COLLIER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION ([www.collierparks.com](http://www.collierparks.com))

15000 Livingston Road, Naples 239.252.4000 Offers a variety of camps and programs where children can explore interests and engage in fun activities

### COLLIER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ([www.collierlibrary.org/events](http://www.collierlibrary.org/events)) Various locations - 239.252.7311

Children of all ages can participate in a variety of free programs and events. Sample elementary offerings include story time, cultural celebrations, and arts and crafts. For 11-17 year-olds, sample offerings include robotics, cultural celebrations, guest speakers, cooking, art and crafts. Events update each month

### CONSERVANCY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ([www.conservancy.org](http://www.conservancy.org) - [info@conservancy.org](mailto:info@conservancy.org))

1495 Smith Preserve Way, Naples - 239.262.0304 Provides access to a variety of environmental learning programs for children of all ages, through the exploration of Southwest Florida ecosystems

### GOLISANO CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF NAPLES ([www.cmon.org](http://www.cmon.org) - [info@cmon.org](mailto:info@cmon.org))

15080 Livingston Road, Naples - 239.514.0084 Provides a wide variety of daily, weekly, and monthly programs and workshops with an emphasis on science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. Camps are also offered

### HOUSE OF GAIA ([www.houseofgaia.org](http://www.houseofgaia.org) - [info@houseofgaia.org](mailto:info@houseofgaia.org)) 1660 Trade Center Way, Naples

239.272.6152 Provides a fun and creative environment with programs focusing on art, music, and personal well-being

### KIDZACT - SUGDEN COMMUNITY THEATER ([www.naplesplayers.org](http://www.naplesplayers.org))

701 5th Avenue South, Naples - 239.434.7340 ext. 127 Offers skill and performance classes, as well as opportunities to experience theatrical performance to foster a love of the arts. Scholarships and discounted show tickets available

### NAPLES BOTANICAL GARDENS ([www.naplesgarden.org](http://www.naplesgarden.org) - [info@naplesgarden.org](mailto:info@naplesgarden.org))

4820 Bayshore Drive, Naples - 239.643.7275 Offers a W.O.N.D.E.R. family program everyday starting at 10:30 a.m. Participants can explore the Children's Garden with monthly themed lessons and activities

### NAPLES ZOO AT CARIBBEAN GARDENS ([www.napleszoo.org](http://www.napleszoo.org) - [info@napleszoo.org](mailto:info@napleszoo.org))

1590 Goodlette-Frank Road, Naples - 239.262.5409 Offers education and conservation programs for endangered species. Safari Squad family programs are on specified days during the month for children ages 3-5. Free admission every 1st Saturday of the month for Collier County residents

### OPTIMIZE TO BECOME THE BEST VERSION OF YOU

([therapytoolsforlife.com](http://therapytoolsforlife.com) - [audraboxma@yahoo.com](mailto:audraboxma@yahoo.com)) 5495 Bryson Drive Suite 423, Naples - 239.963.7274 Offers social skills groups for children in grades 4-12. Services focus on executive functioning, stress management, social skills training, self-esteem, positive self-talk, and conflict resolution

### ROOKERY BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE ([rookerybay.org](http://rookerybay.org))

300 Tower Road, Naples - 239.530.5940 During Science Saturdays, kids can unleash their inner scientist or marine biologist. Activities include a craft, naturalist talk, and feature film. Themes change weekly. Kids 12 and under are free of charge, and registration is recommended

## PARENT TIPS

Children demonstrate strengths in many ways (traditional content areas, music, visual and performing arts, leadership, athletics, philanthropy, technology, entrepreneurship, or some other area. To help a gifted or high-achieving child discover what they do best, it is important to help them explore their interests and abilities.

- Be attentive to your child's comments and observations
- Create an environment that promotes self-expression
- Help your child to develop skills and interests - through plant science, animal care, electronics, carpentry, mechanics, law, design, and crafts
- Encourage your child to explore the beauty of diverse cultures - through language, poetry, story, song, dance, puppetry, cooking, and crafts
- Promote exploration and discovery
- Emphasize effort and progress rather than perfection
- Show your child how errors can be opportunities to discover and learn
- Model positive ways to address setbacks and solve problems
- Instill ways to help your child understand and regulate emotional reactions
- Promote a healthy lifestyle
- Demonstrate how to serve your community

SOURCE: *Helping Your Gifted Child Succeed*, National Association of Gifted Children

# COLLIER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS

**ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST (middle and high)** Academic WorldQuest (AWQ) is an annual team-based competition testing competitors' knowledge of international affairs, geography, history, and culture. AWQ is a global affairs and U.S. foreign policy-based knowledge competition. Every year, over 4,000 high school students across the U.S. participate in local competitions hosted by the World Affairs Council

**APP CHALLENGE (middle and high)** Each year CCPS hosts a mobile app development competition. Student-created apps do not need to be fully functional, however apps will require a mock-up version to be showcased in a video presentation

**COLLIER COUNTY SPELLING BEE (middle)** Presented by the **Optimist Club of Naples**. The Spelling Bee's purpose is to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabulary, learn concepts, and develop correct English usage

**COMMISSIONER'S ACADEMIC CHALLENGE (high)** This Challenge is a highly competitive academic statewide tournament that has top students from each district facing off in an exciting academic competition

**DEBATE (middle and high)** Debate Programs are designed to recognize and challenge academically talented students. Each team competes to persuade a citizen judge to vote for its side of the resolution through a series of speeches and crossfires

**DISTRICT SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR (middle and high)** Provides students an opportunity to develop science research and presentation skills. The top 13 Best of Show projects advance to the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida

**ELEMENTARY MATH CHALLENGE (elementary)** This Challenge encourages high performing math students to develop their mathematical problem solving skills as they race against the clock and their peers to solve challenging math problems

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP INNOVATION COMPETITION (high)** Throughout the school year, students learn and apply the Lean Start-Up Model. They begin with the ideation phase, brainstorming a problem that they feel needs to be solved. Mid-way through the school year, students determine how they could test their idea through a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) pitch. After receiving feedback from a panel of judges, students then test/validate their idea. At the competition, the top teams from each school present their pitches to a panel of judges

**FIBONACCI ART STEAM CHALLENGE (high)** Art 2D students compete in a visual art challenge in the spring that focuses on the integration of mathematics and art. Students learn to compute in the Fibonacci sequence, followed by visualizing the sequence on graph paper using sequential golden mean rectangles. They then use the resulting "Fibonacci spiral" to compose visual artwork that uses the spiral as the focal point of the work. Finalists from each school are displayed at the annual STEAM Competition in the spring at Florida Southwestern State College

**HONORS BAND, CHORUS, AND ORCHESTRA (elementary, middle, and high)** Students prepare for auditions to have the opportunity to perform in an Honors Band, Chorus, or Orchestra concert. Once selected, students go through rigorous rehearsals in preparation for the performance. On the days before the concert, clinicians are brought in from around the state (and at times, around the country) and work with the students in preparation for the concert

**IFILM FESTIVAL (middle and high)** Students are asked to create digital stories based on a variety of categories and topics

**K-12 STUDENT ART EXHIBITION (elementary, middle, and high)** Artwork from all CCPS sites is on display at a variety of locations each spring, with gallery viewing times for our community

**LAWS OF LIFE (elementary, middle, and high)** An essay writing activity helps young people focus on and develop positive character traits that lead to responsible citizenship and a successful life. Students write essays connected to an annual Character Education Laws of Life theme. Participating public and private schools send their top five essays to the District for judging

**MATHCOUNTS (middle)** Inspires keen interest in mathematics, develops strong scholarship in the subject, and promotes enjoyment of mathematics through friendly math competitions

**MOCK TRIAL (high)** Sponsored by the Collier County Bar Association, teams of six to eight students play the roles of witnesses and attorneys in this match-play competition. Each team plays two rounds of Defense and two rounds as the Prosecution

**MODEL UNITED NATIONS (high)** An academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate participants about civics, current events, effective communication, globalization and multilateral diplomacy. Participants research a country, take on roles as diplomats, investigate international issues, debate, deliberate, consult, and then develop solutions to world problems

**MU ALPHA THETA (high)** Inspires keen interest in mathematics, develops strong scholarship in the subject, and promotes enjoyment of mathematics through a structured math competition

**ODYSSEY OF THE MIND (elementary, middle, and high)** An international, creative problem-solving program that encourages students to take control of their learning. Divergent, open-ended problems inspire and challenge students to think critically to solve problems. Students learn to work collaboratively and unconventionally to present solutions

**SCHOLAR BOWL (middle and high)** An academic competition designed to recognize academically talented students. Teams compete based on questions from the areas of mathematics, science, language arts, social studies, current events, and fine arts

**SOLAR CAR COMPETITION (middle)** Teams use the principles of solar power and vehicle design to build and race solar cars

**SUNCHASE SOLAR GO-KART COMPETITION (high)** Teams of students build their own go-kart using specific requirements and guidelines. Competitors have opportunity to learn about solar power, electric vehicles, and engineering skills

**SUPERINTENDENT'S ART SHOW (elementary, middle, and high)** Student artwork is selected for display at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center, and celebrated by the Superintendent in a reception. There are two receptions; one in the fall and another in the spring. Artwork remains displayed until the next Superintendent's Art Gallery Show the following semester

**VEX ROBOTICS (middle and high)** Students in the Engineering Programs have the opportunity to learn to code with Vex Robotics. Students learn C-based and graphical programming to bring their robots to life as they compete in district and regional competitions

## GENERAL ONLINE RESOURCES

**CCPS ADVANCED STUDIES AND GIFTED LEARNERS** [collierschools.com/gifted](http://collierschools.com/gifted)

**FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR THE GIFTED (FLAG)** [www.floridagifted.org](http://www.floridagifted.org)

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED CHILDREN (NAGC)** [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)

**SUPPORTING EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF THE GIFTED (SENG)** [www.sengifted.org/smpg](http://www.sengifted.org/smpg)

## INTEREST SPECIFIC ONLINE RESOURCES

**CCPS STUDENT RESOURCES**  
[canvas.collierschools.com](http://canvas.collierschools.com)

**CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS**  
[www.infosoup.info/kids/awards-home](http://www.infosoup.info/kids/awards-home)

**CPALMS** [floridastudents.org](http://floridastudents.org)

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE**  
[dos.myflorida.com/florida-facts/kids](http://dos.myflorida.com/florida-facts/kids)

**KAHN ACADEMY** [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

**MERRIAM-WEBSTER WORD OF THE DAY**  
[www.merriam-webster.com/word-of-the-day](http://www.merriam-webster.com/word-of-the-day)

**ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY**  
[www.history.com/this-day-in-history](http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history)

**WONDEROPOLIS** [www.wonderopolis.org](http://www.wonderopolis.org)

**WWII CAPTURE LIVING HISTORY PROJECTS**  
[bit.ly/33ej3Mb](http://bit.ly/33ej3Mb)

## TALENT SEARCH

**DAVIDSON INSTITUTE** [www.davidsongifted.org](http://www.davidsongifted.org)

**DUKE TIP** [tip.duke.edu/programs](http://tip.duke.edu/programs)

**JOHN HOPKINS CENTER FOR TALENTED YOUTH** [cty.jhu.edu](http://cty.jhu.edu)

**ROBINSON CENTER FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS**  
[robinsoncenter.us.edu](http://robinsoncenter.us.edu)

## BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

### PARENTS/GUARDIANS

*A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children*  
James T. Webb, Janet L. Gore, et al.

*Twice-Exceptional Gifted Children: Understanding, Teaching, and Counseling*  
Beverly Trail, Ed.D.

*When Gifted Kids Don't Have All the Answers: How to Meet their Social and Emotional Needs*  
Judy Galbraith, M.A., Judy and Jim Delisle, Ph.D.

### STUDENTS

*101 Success Secrets for Gifted Kids: The Ultimate Handbook* Christine Fonseca

*The Gifted Teen Survival Guide: Smart, Sharp, and Ready for (Almost) Anything*  
Judy Galbraith, M.A., Judy and Jim Delisle, Ph.D.

*The Survival Guide for Gifted Kids: For Ages 10 & Under* Judy Galbraith, M.A.

*What to Do When Good Enough Isn't Good Enough: The Real Deal on Perfectionism: A Guide for Kids* Thomas S. Greenspon, Ph.D.