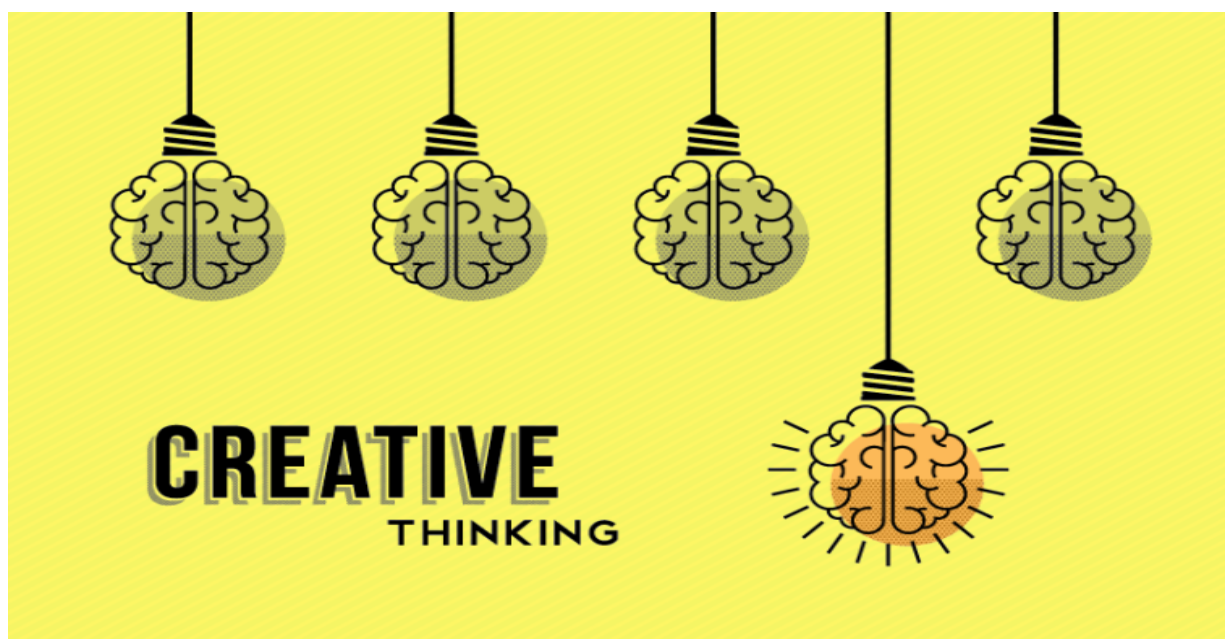
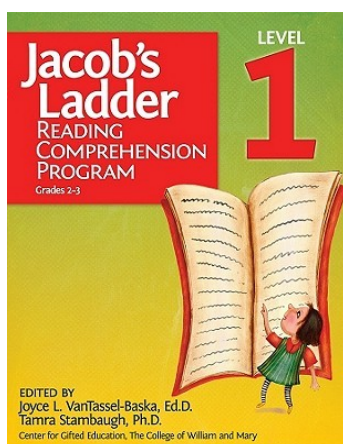


*END OF THIRD QUARTER***DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION NEWSLETTER - 2nd Grade**

Going Beyond Grade-Level Expectations

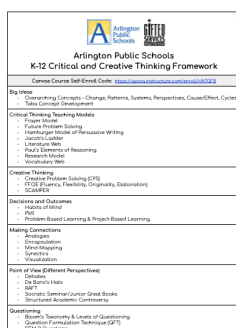
**Oakridge Families - I can't believe the school year is almost over!**

During the third quarter of school, your students worked hard to master grade-level expectations. Now that the third quarter of school has come to a close, we'd like to share some of the opportunities students had to go beyond grade-level expectations. When students demonstrate readiness, by mastering grade-level standards quickly, we use curriculum resources and strategies to push their thinking beyond what is outlined in our standards. In the table below, we've described some of the resources we used to promote critical and creative thinking, provide rigorous content, and extend our curricular goals. Thank you, once again, for your support this year!



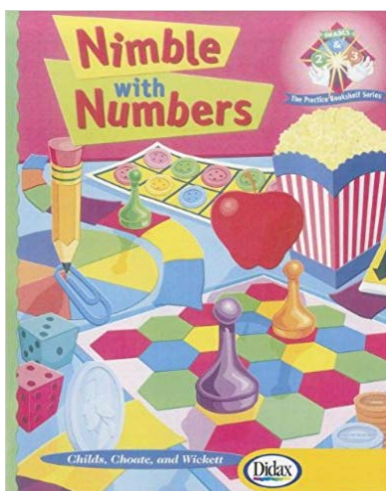
The Jacob's Ladder Reading Comprehension Program - targets reading comprehension skills in high-ability learners by moving students through an inquiry process from basic understanding to critical analyses of texts, using a field-tested method developed by the Center for Gifted Education at William & Mary. Students in grade 2 learned to comprehend and analyze reading passages after completing activities in Jacob's Ladder.

Home Connection - This quarter, students engaged in an author study as part of our work. In school, we focused on Eric Carle. Encourage your child to engage in an author study at home. Search [MackinVIA](#) with your child to help them choose an author to focus on.



Critical and Creative Thinking (CCT) Strategies - We continue to recognize the importance of infusing critical and creative thinking strategies into our curriculum. This quarter, we focused on RAFT which is an activity that provides students with opportunities to create products for certain audiences, based on specific topics, in a defined format, from a particular point of view. RAFT stands for Role – Audience – Format – Topic.

Home Connection - Explore the APS Critical & Creative Thinking [Choice Boards](#) with your child. Encourage your child to try some activities they're excited about.



Math Extension Activities - We used curricular resources to develop extension activities that add complexity to math tasks. Some examples include:

- Making Equations
- Globes of Goo
- Which Path?

Students had opportunities to move to more complex problems as they developed mastery of grade-level concepts.

Home Connection - Students also learned (and played) the game [Math Dice Jr.](#) this quarter. Math Dice Jr. is a fun way to practice and improve computational fluency. Consider trying this game out at home with your child.