



# FALL DIFFERENTIATION RECORD FORM

# GS

## English Language Arts

Project Zero — Harvard's Project Zero thinking routines are strategies that encourage students to explore multiple viewpoints to deepen their understanding of texts. In our poetry unit, routines such as Peel the Fruit and Values-Identities-Actions help students engage with poems beyond surface-level meaning by considering how different individuals might interpret or feel about the text. This process fosters critical thinking, empathy, and creativity, supporting students in developing their ability to analyze and synthesize diverse perspectives.

## Math

Project M3 — In the Project M3 unit "At the Mall with Algebra," students explore algebraic thinking. This unit encourages students to investigate patterns, represent situations with variables, solve equations, and effectively communicate their thinking. It is designed to challenge students by encouraging critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving through hands-on activities and higher-order questions. This program not only strengthens math skills but also nurtures students' ability to apply mathematical reasoning in practical situations.

## Science

Mind Mapping — Mind mapping is a visual tool that helps students organize and connect information in a structured way. Mind maps allow students to explore complex topics, showing relationships between concepts. This approach supports higher-level thinking by encouraging creativity, critical analysis, and the ability to see connections across disciplines. It provides a flexible, student-driven way to explore their ideas and deepen their understanding, helping them to show their prior knowledge at the beginning of a unit or their learning at the end.

## Social Emotional Learning

Growth Mindset — We introduced the development of a growth mindset and goal setting. Students identified and developed plans for their goals. They also identified road blocks and how to overcome those challenges. These strategies support students in reaching their goals as they progress through the school year and beyond.

# Oakridge

## ADVANCED ACADEMICS & TALENT DEVELOPMENT

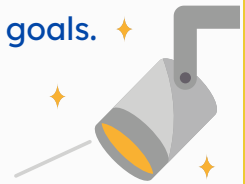


At Oakridge, teachers and staff are committed to ensuring our students learn and grow. When students demonstrate readiness, we use resources and strategies to push their thinking beyond acquisition and fluency to generalization and adaptation. In quarter 1, we have implemented a range of resources and strategies that are aimed at promoting critical and creative thinking among our students.

These initiatives provide them with challenging and rigorous content. We are dedicated to nurturing and encouraging the exceptional abilities of our students. By offering differentiated learning experiences, we can help every child realize their full potential.

We highlighted some resources we've used to promote critical and creative thinking, provide rigorous content, and extend our curricular goals. ✨

### At-Home Spotlight



One of the most powerful tools we can develop is a growth mindset — the belief that intelligence and abilities can be developed through effort, learning, and perseverance. Nurturing a growth mindset is particularly important for students identified as gifted. It helps them cope with perfectionism, foster effort and persistence, embrace diverse strengths in themselves and others, and develop goal-setting skills. At home, practice positive self-talk, the power of yet, setting goals, learning from mistakes, and reflecting on progress. These may happen naturally during the day or through literature discussions.

Mistakes teach me new lessons.

I can't do it YET!

There's always room to improve!



LEARN MORE



I'll get better with practice.

My classmates inspire me to try something new.

Do's and Don'ts for Motivating Your High-Ability Child

