



Dynamic Online Learning Model for Gifted & Talented Students

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While multiple educational systems exist worldwide, according to *Schooling Around the World*, within each country, stakeholders advocate the best practice to assist students in reaching their highest potential.

Often countries will use traditional models to educate their students.

Traditional Learning Environment



Progression
by age.



Traditional models usually include the following:

Grade progression by age where students move from one grade to the next by their chronological age.

Traditional Learning Environment



Progression
by age.



Focus on obtaining
grades.



The learning environments focus on obtaining grades through methods such as test taking, assessments, and projects.

Traditional Learning Environment



Progression
by age.



Focus on obtaining
grades.



Traditional
curriculum.



The focus is also on the traditional curriculum where teachers follow a certain protocol depending on the curriculum chosen by the school or district.

Traditional Learning Environment



Progression
by age.



Focus on obtaining
grades.



Traditional
curriculum.

This system often results in “students who feel disengaged and ‘lost’ in the educational system, the classrooms, and within their educational communities”

(Cara, 2007, p. 222).



This learning model does not always meet the needs of the gifted and talented students.

This model is especially hard when you have a younger student who is working at a higher level and needs higher-level material.

This model can be difficult for gifted students focused on grades because the focus is on obtaining the grade instead of discovering truth and growing in knowledge.

The traditional curriculum may be stifling for gifted students, they may already know the material or become easily disinterested—not as a result of their attitude, but as a result of the content or the way the curriculum is presented.

Stakeholders are left
with questions.



Stakeholders= educational staff, parents, students

They are left to wonder how best to educate the gifted child.

Adults may seek out alternatives to the traditional model or current school model for the gifted child.

Online Learning



One alternative is online learning.

Online Learning

Potential pros:

- Fill in the learning gaps.

A graphic featuring the words "E - LEARNING" in a bold, serif font, overlaid on a blue globe with a grid pattern. The globe is positioned behind the text, and the entire graphic is set against a light blue background.

Online Learning

Potential pros:

- Fill in the learning gaps.
- Challenge gifted students.



E - LEARNING



Online Learning

Potential cons:

- Based on the traditional model.



Online Learning

Potential cons:

- Based on the traditional model.
- The online model may not work well with the gifted student's learning situation.

This still leaves parents and educators looking for answers.

Each gifted student and their situation is unique, so the question remains, How do we best to educate the gifted child?

A Qualitative Narrative Phenomenological Study:
Parental Perceptions in Choosing
Online Educational Classes for Gifted Children



Since parents are experts when it comes to their gifted child, Dr. Kirsten Stein created a study based on what parents were looking for in an online educational resource for their gifted student.

A Qualitative Narrative Phenomenological Study: Parental Perceptions in Choosing Online Educational Classes for Gifted Children

The purpose of this qualitative narrative phenomenological study was to explore the experiences of parents of gifted student children who live in the United States, who have gone through the process of locating and selecting an online class, and who have worked with the online educational environment offering the class.



Dynamic Online Learning Model for Gifted & Talented Students



From the data Dr. Kirsten Stein obtained, she created a model that allows students' educational needs to be met.

Grouping Students by Ability



The first step was to group by ability instead of age – without age restrictions.

Grouping Students by Ability

- Younger students learning at a high level.



Younger students learning higher ability. Students also don't share their ages to prevent ageism.

Watch the content, because you don't want content that is inappropriate for a young student.

Focus on Learning



The next thing was to focus on learning through a variety of modalities -- projects, activities, etc.

Focus on Learning

- Instead of grades, focused on discovering and gaining knowledge.



Of course, as educators, one of our main goals is to teach content to students. But, as I stated before so many of our traditional models rely on the accumulation of grades as opposed to the love of learning.

Online Learning Model



Focus on learning
at ability level.



Dr. Kirsten Stein joined the two to focus on learning at students' ability levels.

That way, they are learning at their level and not getting bored (or too overwhelmed)

Online Learning Model



Focus on learning
at ability level.



Choices.



Provide choices

You are constantly choosing what you want. You gravitate to what you enjoy and what resonates with you.

More engaged = more learning.

Choices –

- Type
- Audio
- Video

Students are able to dive deeply into the subject material.

Online Learning Model



Focus on learning
at ability level.



Choices.



Flexibility.



Flexibility In courses

This includes flexibility with grading. Grade on a completion scale which can be translated to a grade if desired since it is a 5-point scale.

With a flexible platform, you will be able to be easily modify and respond to altered circumstances or conditions.

Flexibility



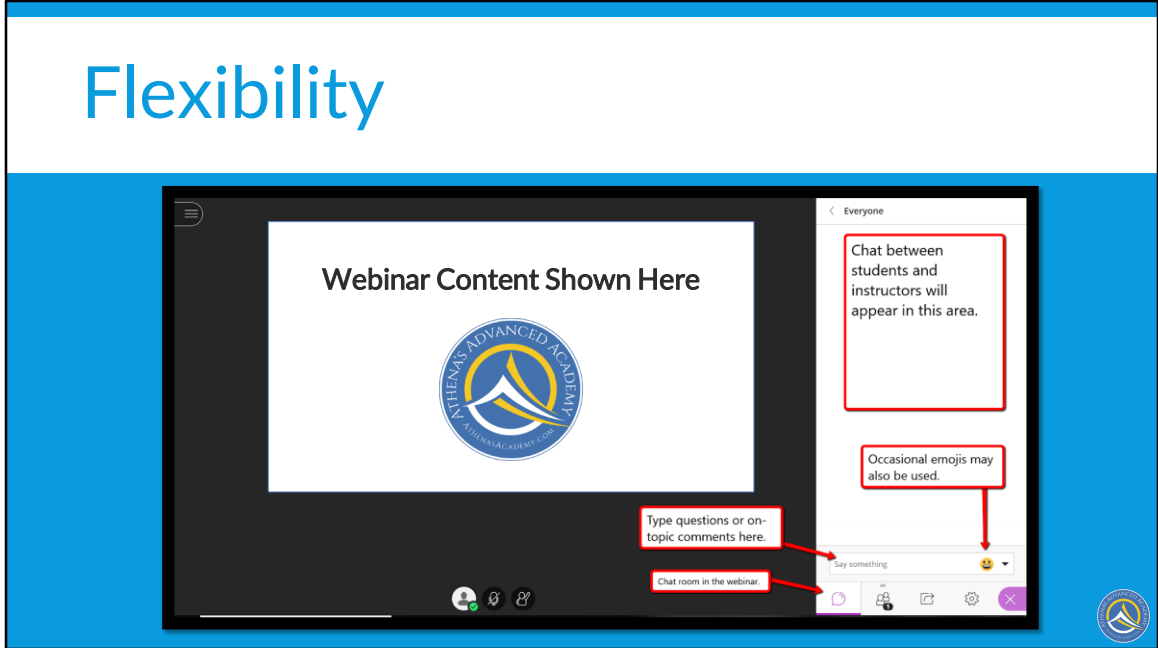
You can go with the flow and still get the desired results.

Flexibility

- **Synchronous ~**
 - Attend the live weekly webinars.
 - Connecting and collaborating with their classmates and instructor via the virtual classroom interface.
- **Asynchronous ~**
 - Watch the recordings of the weekly webinars.
 - Connecting and collaborating with their classmates and instructor via the virtual classroom interface.

Flexibility with time.

Flexibility



Live and recorded webinars.

Flexibility

Welcome to Athena's Online Classroom for Educators!

CONTENTS 

- Introduction
Progress: 0 / 2
- Webinar Room & Recording Links
- Welcome Activities
Progress: 0 / 6
- Online Learning Model
Progress: 0 / 1
- Open Chat
Progress: 0 / 1
-  Course Dashboard

Introduction



AthenasAcademy.com

Welcome to Athena's
Online Classroom! | Discover. Be challenged. Learn.



Asynchronous virtual classroom.

Flexibility

- Required Section
- Highly Suggested and Optional Sections

My Courses

Middle School Chemistry - Fall 2019 - 7 AM

CONTENTS

Introduction	Progress: 0 / 2
Webinar Room & Recording Links	Progress: 0 / 2
Welcome Activities	Progress: 0 / 16
Week 1	Progress: 0 / 36
Week 2	Progress: 0 / 48
Week 3	Progress: 0 / 40
Week 4	Progress: 0 / 31
Week 5	Progress: 0 / 47

Introduction

Welcome to Chemistry!

Flexibility with requirements.

Flexibility

The screenshot illustrates a flexible online learning environment with several overlapping panels:

- CONTENTS Panel (Left):** A sidebar menu with a search icon. It lists sections: Introduction (Progress: 0 / 2), Webinar Room & Recording Links (Progress: 0 / 1), Welcome Activities (Progress: 0 / 10), and a series of weeks from Week 1 to Week 10, each with its own progress indicator (e.g., Week 1: Progress: 0 / 19).
- Video Panel (Top Center):** Titled "Video: The Lost Colony of Roanoke". It describes a 2009 Shortie Awards winner in the Animation Category for ages 7-10, featuring a claymation about the lost colony of Roanoke. It includes a "Read more >" button.
- Forum Panel (Center):** Titled "OPEN FORUM" with a sub-header "Diary: Pretend to be Sinbad". It displays "Recent forum posts" with three entries, each showing a user profile picture and a yellow rectangular placeholder for the post content.
- Optional Panel (Right):** A panel titled "Optional" containing two main activity cards:
 - Explore the Arabian Peninsula / Middle East - Interactive Map:** Includes a thumbnail image of a desert landscape with palm trees and a "Read more >" button.
 - 10 Beautiful and Spectacular Desert Oases:** Includes a thumbnail image of a desert landscape with palm trees and a "Read more >" button.At the bottom of this panel, there are two more activity links: "Take a Virtual Hajj" and "Interactive Mecca Map". A circular logo is visible in the bottom right corner of this panel.

Teach using many different online tools.

Flexibility



Teach curriculum in a non-traditional way.

In addition, it's not just important to focus on learning, gifted students need to connect with other like-minded individuals

Flexibility



Teach curriculum in a non-traditional way—

For example, using a book that catches your attention.

Connections



In addition, it's not just important to focus on learning, gifted students need to connect with other like-minded individuals.

Connections

- Social Forums
- Open Chat
- Group Projects
- Minecraft
- Mock Court
- Art Show/Recital
- Junior Presenters
- Junior Instructors
- Junior Reporters



Examples.

Discover. Be challenged. Learn.



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To see the model in action go to...

Discover. Be challenged. Learn.

Step 1: Visit
<http://bit.ly/EducatorWelcome>

Step 2: Log In as a Guest



AthenasAcademy.com

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