

# CLUE News 2006



Clustering Learners Unlocks Equity

Center for Gifted Studies and Talent Development  
Ball State University  
&  
Indianapolis Public Schools  
Volume 4

## Project CLUE

### Year 4

Year 4 of the Project Clue initiative has brought a few changes in cluster teachers and participating schools. We welcome all of the new teachers to our program. Summer training was very well attended by our IPS colleagues and it was Ball State's pleasure to provide a diverse array of workshop sessions for everyone. As we entered our new year all third and fourth grade cluster teachers had received curriculum materials for implementation. Fifth grade curriculum teachers had received their final curriculum units for math and language arts. We welcomed a few sixth grade cluster teachers this year. Although they will not receive designed curriculum materials and guidelines, they received training in a variety of differentiated

strategies. These cluster teachers will keep the CLUE team updated on classroom activities with their gifted students.

### Summer Workshop 2005

Around 80 CLUE teachers attended the summer intensive workshop held in Indianapolis in July. Attendees were provided outstanding learning opportunities within their respective sessions. This year included several outstanding consultants whose presentations were well received by all. Dr. Rebecca Pierce and Dr. Felicia Dixon again provided trainings in the math and language arts replacement curriculums. Dr. Adams' sessions continued with differentiating strategies. Dr. William Bintz and Dr. Sara

Delano Moore led sessions using literature to teach math and science. Dr. Cathi Cornelius-Robinson focused her session on multi-cultural concepts and teaching minority gifted students. Sue Dutson and Tracy Kelly-Freer, consultants from England, shared with teachers a variety of hands-on activities to use with children's stories. Nancy Kitt, IUPUI, and Donna Toll, Ball State University, presented third grade teachers with training focusing on the Fraction Island manipulatives. Finally, Alan and Sue Schuler provided training with their Muggins Math materials.

### Math Extras from Dr. Pierce

Find ideas to enhance your mathematics curriculum through

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Marilyn Burns' Math Solutions Online Newsletter. Go to [www.mathsolutions.com](http://www.mathsolutions.com) to find free classroom lessons, messages from Marilyn, and more through this free subscription. Also check out the website below for worksheets, word problems, illustrated solutions, and answers to mathematics problems based on children's books:  
<http://teacherpages.eisc.hools.org/mst/web/storyville/math.html>  
Use the following website for fun filled mathematics resources and online games you could use for anchoring activities for grades 4, 5, & 6:  
[www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca/mathfrog/main.shtml](http://www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca/mathfrog/main.shtml)  
Here's a great opportunity to add some excitement to your classroom: Uncover Global Mystery Classes. Free online geography project starts January 27. Classrooms in grades 4 to 12 are invited to

participate in Journey North's Mystery Class project in which students try to find ten secret classes "hiding" around the globe. The central clue is the changing amount of sunlight (photoperiod) at each site. Students first use only sunrise and sunset times, and later receive geographic and cultural clues about each site. In the meantime, they also track day length in their hometowns. On this inspiring ten-week journey, young geographers must use reasoning, graphing, and research skills to pinpoint exact locations of the mystery classes. This investigation demonstrates that, as spring sweeps across the Northern Hemisphere, day length changes everywhere on earth. Students learn that this is related to the tilt of the earth's axis in relation to the sunlight striking the planet. They discover that this is what drives seasonal changes,

which, in turn, affect the entire web of life.

Students develop a deep grasp of these important concepts because they puzzle them out in real time as the project unfolds over two and a half months.

This is an excellent project to combine with the GEMS unit The Real Reasons for Seasons. To learn more and register to participate, visit this area on the Journey North website: [www.learner.org/jnorth/tm/mclass/About.html](http://www.learner.org/jnorth/tm/mclass/About.html)  
To learn about other Journey North spring projects—from monarch migrations to mapping challenges—go to the home page: [www.learner.org/jnorth/](http://www.learner.org/jnorth/)

## Curriculum Comments

My entire class enjoyed the Into the Unknown algebra unit. I found that many of my students who have previously been

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unsuccessful in school thoroughly enjoyed this unit. It brought out the best in all students.  
Marcia Lockwood, Grade 3

### Family Math Night

Approximately thirty families or 100+ participants actively participated in the 2005 IPS Gifted and Talented Family Math Night at the Indianapolis Children's Museum. Marian College Math Facilitators and IPS Gifted and Talented Office personnel anxiously awaited the participants and directed them to the museum exhibits upon check-in. Young and old explored the hands-on Children's Museum exhibits. Afterwards, Pizza Hut Pizza (various topping options), drinks and cookies were served buffet style. The Family Math Night games and activities immediately followed with students collectively solving challenging math equations and problems using the math

manipulatives and packets provided by the two fabulous facilitators, Donna Toll (BSU) and Nancy Kitt (IUPUI). Meanwhile, siblings were taken aside to play math games with the Marian College Math Facilitators. The evening ended with door prize drawings. All appeared to truly enjoy the evening of free food, learning, and fun.  
Cathi Cornelius-Robinson,  
Project CLUE Family Math Night Coordinator



Mary Henderson & Siena Fitting hands-on literature activity



Melinda Albaugh training with Fracti on Islands

### 2005 Photos



Laura Woods & Joyce Ertel  
4<sup>th</sup> grade math training



Shirley Hromada, Claudia Hoone, Pam Spearman, & Sylvia Myles during the paper airplane activity

### Summer Workshop 2006

July 10-13 at the Marten House