

What is the Learning Unlimited Program in Macopin School?

Learning Unlimited (LU) is an enrichment program servicing identified academically talented students in grade 8 (marking periods one and two) and grade 7 (marking periods three and four). The program is given during students' lunch periods on Wednesday. The students will eat their lunch in the classroom.



Grade eight will investigate the fundamental parts of the brain and their functions. The growth and feeding of the brain as well as the process of dreams, memory and the difference between brain and mind will be discussed. The students will identify their brain laterality and learning modality through exercises and activities developed from the theories of Gardner and other leading educational specialists. While exploring how the brain learns, students will participate in exercises designed to expand their own potential. The ponderings and discoveries of Leonardo da Vinci concerning the brain will be featured as well as his *principles* to strengthen the brain. The culminating project will be a model that the student will create fashioned after a da Vinci invention taken from his famous notebook.



Grade seven will identify alternative energy sources and their uses in a changing world. Special attention will be given to solar energy, its development, collection, and utilization possibilities. This will be combined with the study of the physics and mechanics of motion to create various models of wheeled conveyances. The culminating project will be a car that is electrically powered by both battery and solar panel. Students will participate in a solar car competition judged on design and speed.

How Are Students Selected?

Candidates are identified by standardized aptitude scores. Language and Mathematics teachers complete teacher evaluation forms for these students. The three scores are combined to develop a ranking. The process is completed anew each year.