Newport-Mesa Unified School District  
*Gifted and Talented Education*

Invites you to participate in the  
4th Annual Independent Study Showcase

Independent Study is an important component of our gifted and talented education program. It facilitates learning according to student interest, ability and need; and functions as a personalized form of learning that supports the perspective that students can be autonomous learners. While conducting an Independent Study, students follow appropriate steps of non-fiction research that closely mirror how professionals, scholars, and researchers pursue interests and gain knowledge in our world today.

The Independent Study Showcase provides a special opportunity for our identified gifted and talented students in Newport-Mesa. GATE cluster teachers are aware of the evening, and are knowledgeable about how to help prepare their students for this event. While participation is optional, we would like to encourage students and their families to take advantage of this unique opportunity, as it will be an exciting occasion for all to learn about the personal interests, passions and knowledge of our gifted learners.

**Who:** GATE Identified Students in grades 4-6  
**When:** Thursday, February 26, 2009 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Students should bring and set up their products early, between 4:00 & 5:30 p.m  
**Where:** The Orange County Department of Education, Building D  
200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

**Additional Information:** To participate, students must be present at the event in order to fulfill the final step of the Independent Study process, *sharing their information with others*. All students are responsible for transporting their Independent Study materials to and from the Department of Education. Students will be permitted to set up their project/presentation displays between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on the day of the event, February 26th. Space near power outlets is limited, if a presentation requires power, students must provide an extension cord.

If you have any further questions, please contact your child's teacher and/or Kim Dodds, the NMUSD GATE Teacher on Special Assignment at (949) 515-6715 or k dodds@nmusd.us. We look forward to seeing you soon!