



## 2010 was an active year for the Gifted Education Cooperative.

### GECO sponsored visits by three locally & nationally known speakers:

- Penny Choice, "Working In the Right Mind: The Challenges Facing Visual Spatial Learners"
- Michael Piechowski, PhD, "Living with Intensities and Sensitivities of the Gifted Child"
- Andy Mahoney, "Understanding Executive Functioning and Your Gifted Child"

### GECO offered events at which kids got to be together and stretch their brains

- Peek at the Middle East, a joint venture with the Hinsdale Public Library
- Picnic and Shakespeare in the Park with First Folio theatre: Twelfth Night
- Illinois Institute of Technology's Alternate Energy Lab to see a "perfect power system"

### GECO held informational coffees and events to provide support and increase parent knowledge, including:

- Guided Reading of *Guiding the Gifted Child*
- Raising and educating bright children, learn from those who have older gifted children
- Testing in District 181: Using Testing Data to Inform and Guide Decision Making
- Gifted 101- A primer on the special parenting needs of gifted children
- What's Down the Road? Tell Me about Hinsdale Central: a panel discussion of HCHS teachers and experienced parents
- Monthly literary book club
- Monthly parenting book club on topics regarding gifted kids
- Supported a Young Children's Group [gecoyoungkids@arvamont.com](mailto:gecoyoungkids@arvamont.com)

### GECO maintained an informational website, [www.geco181.info](http://www.geco181.info)

### GECO advocated for gifted and talented children:

- Joined IAGC sponsored Advocacy Day in Springfield to encourage continued support of gifted education in the Illinois School Code.

## GECO has even more planned for 2011, including:

**January 22** GECO Kids Activity: **Peek at South America:** a look at the cultures of three countries: Brazil, Columbia and Argentina

**January 23** GECO Kids Activity: **Art through the Ages:** A Private, Docent-Led Tour of the Art Institute's Permanent Collection at the Art institute of Chicago.

**January - February** **Guided Reading of *Guiding the Gifted Child***

**February 2** Meet the New Superintendent, Dr. Renée Schuster

**February 6** IAGC Workshop for Parents featuring Judy Galbraith

**February 10** **Summer Activities Fair** Information on summer programs

**Please support these activities by joining or renewing  
your membership today!**

Questions? See [www.geco181.info](http://www.geco181.info) for more information  
or contact Lynne Bloomfield, GECO Treasurer at 630.654.3857