*Beyond Words* Final Unit Project: Language Changes

Soon we will be embarking on our final unit project for the Beyond Words Gifted Curriculum. This project focuses on changes in language.

Scholars will be investigating how language has changed for themselves and their families throughout time. They will explore how people change language and how language can change people. They will research questions on language by interviewing family members and reflecting on their own experiences. They will take notes and collect information to put together into a final oral presentation.

This project will be divided into four parts (see the next page for descriptions). Each part will have a suggested due date so students can manage the project over the course of the next four weeks. These parts do not have to be turned in until the very end. The final project will be due on **Monday, June 12th**. Students will give their oral presentations in class using notes during the week of 6/12-6/16.

Although the report will be oral, each student should turn in the notes for each section of the assignment. Each part or section of the report should be **at least 5 sentences long**. The description of each section will guide students in what kind of information they should be looking for.

We will be discussing the project in class and talking about examples. During the course of this project, families may decide to prioritize project work over math homework. Students are not penalized for not turning in daily math homework. We will still be doing spelling words during this project. If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Parts of the Project

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| Part | Description | Suggested Due Date\* |
| 1. Changes to your language | Research the way your own language has changed as you’ve grown older. What were some words you used when you were younger that you no longer use? What were some words you’ve learned since you’ve started school? | 5/19 |
| 2. Changes to the language of your parents and grandparents | How has language changed for your parents and grandparents? What are some words they used to say when they were your age that people do not usually use now? What are some words they have had to learn because of new inventions? (Think computers!) | 5/26 |
| 3. Changes to the language because of moving | How has language changed for your family as they have moved from place to place? Have any members of your family lived in a different state or country? If so, what are some words they used in those other places that they do not use now? | 6/2 |
| 4. Tying it all together  (The main research question) | What have you learned about language and how it changes? How does language change…is it slow and gradual or quick? Why does it change? How is it different for different people? Does language change people? How? Do people change language? How? | 6/9 |

Final Project notes due: Monday, 6/12

Oral Presentations: Week of 6/12-6/16 (parents will be invited to these presentations. The presentation schedule will be posted online).

\*Notes do NOT need to be turned in on these suggested due dates. This is just a timeline to keep students on track. Please turn in all project notes on 6/12.