

**4th and 5th Grade InvestiGators FAQs**

**What are the expectations for InvestiGators?**

We have outlined the following character/behavior expectations for InvestiGators members:

1. **Follows School-Wide Rules**
2. **Is Responsible**
3. **Thinks Critically**
4. **Is a Mature Leader**
5. **Is Enthusiastic**
6. **Uses Time Wisely**
7. **Is Cooperative**
8. **Adapts to Changes**
9. **Is Creative**
10. **Is Respectful**

**What is the selection process?**

Students are selected for InvestiGators based on a data-driven combination of Spring iReady scores and teacher rating scales focused on the character/behavior expectations listed above. This allows students to enter the program through a combination of academic skills and character skills that will ensure success in an investigative setting. The group will have a maximum of 12 students from each grade level at any time. A waitlist of 5 students per grade level will be used if a student chooses not to participate or leaves InvestiGators before the end of the first quarter.

**What is the attendance policy?**

All students are expected to attend every session of the InvestiGators unless they are absent from school that day. If the student is in school but will not be present in the InvestiGators, the InvestiGators teacher must be notified in advance.

**What happens if a student leaves InvestiGators?**

If students are removed or choose to end their time in InvestiGators *before the end of the first quarter***,** their spot will be filled by the next eligible student. If a student leaves *after the end of the first quarter***,** their spot will not be filled as the group has progressed into longer projects that require background knowledge.

**What is the meeting time like?**

InvestiGators is meant to facilitate additional learning beyond what is presented in the classroom. The work required includes research, written assignments, and hands-on projects. Students are expected to complete their regular homework for classes as well as going above and beyond in completing and participating in InvestiGators activities and assignments.

If **requesting** students work outside of InvestiGators time, information will be sent to homeroom teachers and/or parents on requirements. Students may also attend field trips and experiential learning opportunities outside of the school during the school day or during InvestiGators time.

**What happens if InvestiGators is cancelled?**

InvestiGators will be cancelled if all afterschool activities are cancelled due to weather. All other cancellations will be communicated home via email, paper notice, or phone call. If a cancellation must occur, an effort will be made to make up the missed meeting on a Thursday, or as an addition to the end of the InvestiGators calendar.

**Whom do I contact with questions?**

If your question is related directly to InvestiGators meetings, work, or cancellations, please communicate with the InvestiGators Teacher for that grade level:

4th Grade InvestiGators: Mrs. Jen Giardini [jgiardini@alcsny.org](mailto:jgiardini@alcsny.org)

5th Grade InvestiGators: Mrs. Greta Gregory [ggregory@alcsny.org](mailto:ggregory@alcsny.org)

If your question is related to the selection process, expectations, or to request your child is removed from the InvestiGators program, please communicate with the InvestiGators Coordinator.

InvestiGators Coordinator: Mrs. Alexandra Stover [astover@alcsny.org](mailto:astover@alcsny.org)