

# Gifted and Talented Children: How to Identify a Gifted Child



# How to identify a gifted child

## Characteristics/Signs of Gifted

### Gifted students:

1. are often perfectionist and idealistic.
2. may experience heightened sensitivity to their own expectations and those of others.
3. are asynchronous
4. are "mappers" (sequential learners), while others are "leapers" spatial learners.
5. might be so far ahead of their chronological age mates that they know half the curriculum before the school year begins!
6. are problem solvers.
7. often think abstractly and with such complexity that they may need help with concrete study and test-taking skills.
8. who do well in school may define success as getting an "A" and failure as any grade less than an "A".

Of the six areas of giftedness most gifted students usually have unusual talent in one or occasionally two areas. No child will be gifted in all six, but some may be in more than one area.

### 1. Creative Thinking

- Be an Independent thinker
- Exhibits original thinking in oral and written expression
- Comes up with several solutions to a given problem
- Possesses a sense of humor
- Creates and invents
- Challenged by creative tasks
- Improvises often
- Does not mind being different from the crowd

### 2. General Intellectual Ability

- Formulates abstractions
- Processes information in complex ways
- Is observant
- Is excited about new ideas
- Enjoys hypothesizing
- Learns rapidly
- Uses a large vocabulary
- Is inquisitive
- Is a self starter

**3. Specific Academic Ability**

- Have a good memorization ability
- Possesses advanced comprehension
- Acquires basic skill knowledge quickly
- Reads widely in special interest area
- Exhibits high academic success in special interest area
- Pursues special interest with enthusiasm and vigor

**4. Leadership**

- Assumes responsibility
- Has high expectations for self and others
- Has fluent, concise self expression
- Foresees consequences and implications of decisions
- Demonstrates good judgment in decision making
- Likes structure
- Is well-liked by peers
- Is self-confident
- Is organized

**5. Psychomotor**

- Exhibits precision in movement
- Enjoys participation in various athletic opportunities
- Excels in motor skills
- Is well coordinated
- Has good manipulative skills
- Has high energy level

**6. Visual/ Performing Arts**

- Has an outstanding in sense of spatial relationships
- Demonstrates unusual ability in expressing self ,feeling, moods, etc., through dance, drama, music, etc.
- Possesses good motor coordination
- Exhibits creative expression
- Desires to produce "own product" (not content with mere copying)
- Is observant