

“How do I know if a child is *gifted*?”

Information to inform the decision to request gifted screening/assessment

Why We Identify...

Every child has a *gift* and is a wonderful *gift* to the world, yet not every child is *gifted*.

The term *gifted* is a professional term used to describe students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment. These students are found at all grades and in many different areas. For some gifted students, their learning needs exceed those of their age-level peers. The goal of screening and identification of *gifted* students is to locate these students to ensure that we are providing the most appropriate, challenging, and least restrictive educational environment to match their individual needs.

Characteristics of Gifted Children

(from *When Gifted Kids Don't Have All the Answers*
by Jim Delisle, PhD. & Judy Galbraith, M.A.)

1. Shows superior reasoning powers and marked ability to handle ideas; can generalize readily from specific facts and can see subtle relationships; has outstanding problem-solving ability.
2. Shows persistent intellectual curiosity; asks searching questions; shows exceptional interest in the nature of humankind and the universe.
3. Has a wide range of interests, often of an intellectual kind; develops one or more interests to considerable depth.
4. Is markedly superior in quality and quantity of written and/or spoken vocabulary; is interested in the subtleties of words and their uses.
5. Reads avidly and absorbs books well beyond his or her years.
6. Learns quickly and easily and retains what is learned; recalls important details, concepts and principles; comprehends readily.
7. Shows insight into arithmetical problems that require careful reasoning and grasps mathematical concepts readily.
8. Sustains concentration for lengthy periods and shows outstanding responsibility and independence in classroom work.

How do I know if a child is a “High Achiever” or a “Gifted Learner”?

A High Achiever	A Gifted Learner
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knows the answer• Is interested• Generates advanced ideas• Works hard to achieve• Answers the questions• Performs at the top of the group• Needs 6 to 8 repetitions for mastery• Comprehends at a high level• Enjoys peers• Grasps the meaning• Absorbs the information• Is motivated by grades• Enjoys school• Copies accurately	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asks the questions• Is curious• Generates complex, abstract ideas• Knows without working hard• Discusses in detail, elaborates• May go beyond the group• Needs 1 to 2 repetitions for mastery• Comprehends in-depth, complex ideas• Prefers adults• Draws inferences and connects concepts• Manipulates information• May not be motivated by grades• Enjoys learning• Creates a new design