

A stack of white papers or documents, slightly blurred, set against a light blue background.A blurred image of a clock face, showing numbers and hands, set against a light purple background.

Giftedness Defined

A stack of white papers or documents, slightly blurred, set against a light green background.A clear image of a yellow clock face with black numbers and hands, set against a yellow background.

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What Does Giftedness Mean?

“Giftedness is that precious endowment of potentially outstanding abilities which allows a person to interact with the environment with remarkably high levels of achievement and creativity.”





Activity 1



In a group of 3-4 teachers, use markers and poster board to draw a picture of a gifted child?



What characteristics does your gifted child possess?



Would your gifted child be identified for our gifted program?

Who Are Gifted Children?

“Gifted and talented children are those identified by professionally qualified persons who by virtue of outstanding abilities are capable of high performance.”



As a result of Giftedness...

These are children who require differentiated educational programs and/or services beyond those normally provided by the regular school program in order to realize their contribution to self and society.





Children Capable of High Performance

Include those with demonstrated achievement and/or potential ability in any of the following areas, singly or in combination:

- * General Intellectual Ability
- * Specific Academic Aptitude

Children Capable of High Performance

- * Creative or Productive Thinking
- * Leadership Ability
- * Visual or Performing Arts
- * Psychomotor Ability



General Intellectual Ability or Talent

This is usually defined in terms of a high intelligence test score that is two standard deviations above the mean on individual or group measures.



General Intellectual Ability or Talent Recognized By Parents and Teachers

This ability is usually recognized by parents and teachers by students wide-range fund of general information and high levels of vocabulary, memory, abstract word knowledge, and abstract reasoning.



A vertical stack of four images on the left side of the slide. From top to bottom: a clock with a purple-to-blue gradient background; a clock with a yellow-to-orange gradient background; an open book with a green-to-cyan gradient background; and a closed book with a purple-to-blue gradient background.

Specific Academic Aptitude or Talent

Students who possess specific academic aptitude or talents are identified by their outstanding performance on an achievement test in one area such as mathematics or language arts.

Creative and Productive Thinking

This is the ability to produce new ideas by bringing together elements usually thought of as independent or dissimilar and the aptitude for developing new meanings that have social value.



Characteristics of Creative and Productive Thinkers

- Openness to experience
- Setting personal standards for evaluation
- Ability to play with ideas
- Willingness to take risks
- Preference for complexity
- Tolerance for ambiguity



Characteristics of Creative and Productive Thinkers

- Positive self-image
- Ability to become submerged in a task

A type of instrument most commonly used to measure creativity is the Torrance Test of Creative Thinking



Leadership Ability

Leadership can be defined as the ability to direct individuals or groups to a common decision or action.



Leadership Recognized By Teachers

This ability can be recognized by teachers through the acknowledgement of a student's keen interest and skill in problem solving.



Characteristics of Leadership

- Self-confidence
- Responsibility
- Cooperation
- A tendency to dominate
- The ability to adapt readily to new situations

A type of instrument one might use is the Fundamental Interpersonal Relations Orientation Behavior



Visual and Performing Arts

Visual and performing arts giftedness can be found in student's demonstrating special talents in visual art, music, dance, drama, or other related studies.

A type of instrument used to measure visual and performing arts talent is the Creative Products Scales.



Psychomotor Ability

Psychomotor ability involves kinesthetic motor abilities such as practical, spatial, mechanical, and physical skills.


This type of giftedness is usually not a criterion in gifted programs.



The Many Names A Gifted Child Is Called...

- Genius
- Prodigy
- Precocious
- Superior
- Rapid Learner
- Exceptional



A vertical stack of four images on the left side of the slide. From top to bottom: a clock with a purple and blue gradient background; a clock with a yellow and orange gradient background; a stack of books with a green and blue gradient background; and a stack of books with a purple and blue gradient background.

A Checklist of Giftedness to Use As A Guide

It is important to remember when reading through this checklists that no one child manifests all of the attributes described.

Checklist for Giftedness

- Good problem solving/reasoning abilities
- Rapid learning ability
- Extensive vocabulary
- Excellent memory
- Long attention span
- Personal sensitivity



Checklist for Giftedness

- Compassion for others
- Perfectionism
- Intensity
- Moral sensitivity
- Unusual curiosity
- Perseverant when interested
- High degree of energy





Checklist for Giftedness

- Preference for older companions
- Wide range of interest
- Great sense of humor
- Early or avid reading ability
- Concerned with justice, fairness
- At times, judgment seems mature for age

Checklist for Giftedness

- Keen powers of observation
- Vivid imagination
- High degree of creativity
- Tends to question authority
- Shows ability with numbers
- Good at jigsaw puzzles





Gifted Students Who Often Get Overlooked

- Silent, avid book readers
- The most annoying students who are in to virtually everything

Recognize these characteristics!

Program Model

- K-2 Whole Class Enrichment
- 3-4 Pull-Out 150min. +
- 5-6 Pull-Out 150min. +
- 7-9 Secondary Content/Pre-AP/AP
- 10-12 Secondary Content/Pre-AP/AP

*Students are formally identified in 3rd grade or above.
J.H. & H.S. Students meet when time schedule allows.*

G/T Curriculum Focuses On...

- Creativity
- Fluency
- Higher Order Thinking Skills
- Problem-Solving
- Critical thinking
- Research Skills



Activities Offered During Pull-Out

- Vocabulary Enhancement
- Journal Writing
- Problem-Solving and Critical Thinking Activities
- Quiz Bowl
- Creativity and Fluency Activities
- Thematic Studies/Projects





Examples of Thematic Study

- 4th Animals Among Us
Civil War
Nights of the Notables
- 5/6 Japan
Where In the World Is...?
Ancient Egypt

UNITS VARY FROM YEAR TO YEAR

Extra Activities Offered for Gifted Students

- Quiz Bowl
 - *Intermediate
 - *Jr. High
 - *Sr. High
- Chess
 - *Intermediate
 - *Jr. High
 - *Sr. High
- Robotics
 - *Intermediate
- Model UN
 - *Sr. High

Programs vary according to interest.

Something for Thought

“ If we were TV sets, some of us would only get five channels. Others are wired for cable (the general population) and some of us (the gifted) are hooked up to a satellite dish. That makes these gifted children capable of making connections that others don't even know exist! Teaching those types of voracious minds in a regular classroom without enhancement is like feeding an elephant one blade of grass at a time. You'll starve them.” – Elizabeth Meckstroth

