

Typical Positive Characteristics of a Gifted Child

Circle all that apply:

Artistic Ability	Intellectual Ability	Creative Thinking	Academic Ability	Leadership
Exceptional sense of spatial relationships	Understands and interacts with abstract ideas	Independent thinking	High academic success in a specific interest	Prefers structure
Unusual talent for self-expression through art (dance, drama, music, painting, etc)	Complex processing of information	Originality in oral/written expression	Extra excitement and effort for special interest	Well-liked
Prefers to create original art	Observant	Generates several solutions per problem	Strong memorization	Peer-voted leader
Practices talent often on own	Finds new ideas exciting	Improvises	Above average comprehension	Self-confident
Desires to improve skills	Large vocab.	Sense of humor	Learn basic skills rapidly	Good judgement
Strong motor skills	Inquisitive	Challenged by creative tasks	Self-directed and motivated	High expectations of self and others
Observes others with artistic talent	Learns quickly	Unique and does not mind being unique	Well versed in interest area	Responsible
Learns new artistic skills quickly with little teaching	Learn at an earlier age	Creates unique products/ideas	Knows correct answers	Expresses themselves well
High sensory sensitivity	Self-starter	Interest in creative activities	Corrects own mistakes	Predicts consequences of actions/decisions
Sees tiny details in art	Prefers challenges	Divergent thinking	Recognized as having high intellectual ability	Works well in a group
	Makes swift, accurate generalizations	Experiments and does things differently	Self-aware of academic aptitude	Envisions "better" was of doing things and tells others (not always in a positive or kind manner)
	Uses logic to discover answers and relationships	Willingness to take risks	Wants to learn	Wants to share all they know
	Solves challenging, unique problems	Curious		Prefer to be in charge
	Creates sophisticated ideas	Imaginative		Advanced sense of mortality and empathy
	Can remember an abundance of information	Flexible thinking		
	Asks unique questions	Unusual interests		

	Limitless supply of questions	High energy level		
	Longer attention span, determination, and focus			

Twice Exceptional Students Characteristics

Autism/Aspergers	ADD/ADHD	Specific Learning Disabilities
<i>High functioning autism (also known as Aspergers) can be very similar to giftedness. The main difference is social skill. Things to look for to determine giftedness:</i>	Often occurs in gifted students, but sometimes is misdiagnosed. Students may have both, or may have overexcitabilities	Students need only be gifted in one area, so they may be gifted and still have a learning disorder. General characteristics of these students are:
Normal friendships with common interests	Very difficult to determine if behaviors or due to giftedness or ADHD, so many students may exhibit these without a diagnosis	Struggles with basic skills/reading in specific area
Reads emotions of others		High verbal ability but poor written expression
Emotions appropriate to the situation		Observant but has memory skills
Displays sympathy and empathy correctly		Excels in solving “real world” problems
Aware of others’ perceptions of them		Struggles to focus in areas that are not of interest
Little or no motor clumsiness		Unusual imagination
Handles changes in routine		
Speech and humor is adult-like		
Understands figurative language		

