

## GIFTED CHILDREN

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### **Abstract :**

*Defining the term gifted is no easy task. Numerous definitions have been suggested, but no single definition of giftedness is accepted by everyone or even by a majority of people. Because so many definitions exist, people often get confused over just what it means to be gifted. Not only that, parents and teachers sometimes find it difficult to communicate because what they say is based on different definitions! To help eliminate the confusion, it's a good idea to understand where the term came from and the different perspectives that led to the many definitions that exist today.*

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**Key Words :** Gifted Children, ability, Characteristics

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### **Definition of Gifted Children :**

Giftedness is traditionally defined as having an Intelligence Quotient (IQ) higher than 130. This translates to an intellectual capacity beyond that expected for the chronological age of the child. It also indicates a potential to achieve highly in both childhood and adulthood.

But there is more to giftedness than increased cognitive ability. There is a general heightening of senses, bringing an acute awareness of touch, hearing, sight, smell and taste (refer Dabrowski's sensitivities), making these children particularly sensitive to all forms of stimuli. There is also a complex processing of information. The path from one point to another is never the straightest. All possibilities and ramifications must be considered before action can be taken. And the perfect response is sought – nothing less.

[Martha Morelock](#), in 1992, defined giftedness in terms of a person's inner world. The gifted person has an "atypical development throughout the lifespan in

terms of awareness, perceptions, emotional responses and life experiences". That is, the gifted person experiences life events differently to others. They have a different interpretation of life.

### **Identifying The Gifted :**

1. Einstein was four years old before he could speak and seven before he could read.
2. Isaac Newton did poorly in grade school.
3. When Thomas Edison was a boy, his teachers told him he was too stupid to learn anything.
4. F.W.Woolworth got a job in a dry goods store when he was 21. But his employers would not let him wait on a customer because he "Didn't have enough sense."
5. A newspaper editor fired Walt Disney because he had "No good ideas"
6. Caruso's music teacher told him "You can't sing, you have no voice at all."
7. Leo Tolstoy flunked out of college.

### **General Behavior Characteristics :**

Gifted children's behavior differs from that of their age-mates in the following ways:

- Many gifted children learn to read early, with better comprehension of the nuances of language. As much as half the gifted and talented population has learned to read before entering school.
- Gifted children often read widely, quickly, and intensely and have large vocabularies.
- Gifted children commonly learn basic skills better, more quickly, and with less practice.
- They are better able to construct and handle abstractions.
- They often pick up and interpret nonverbal cues and can draw inferences that other children need to have spelled out for them.
- They take less for granted, seeking the "hows" and "whys."
- They can work independently at an earlier age and can concentrate for longer periods.
- Their interests are both wildly eclectic and intensely focused.

- They often have seemingly boundless energy, which sometimes leads to a misdiagnosis of hyperactivity.
- They usually respond and relate well to parents, teachers, and other adults. They may prefer the company of older children and adults to that of their peers.

### **Learning Characteristics :**

Gifted children are natural learners who often show many of these characteristics :

- They may show keen powers of observation and a sense of the significant; they have an eye for important details.
- They may read a great deal on their own, preferring books and magazines written for children older than they are.
- They often take great pleasure in intellectual activity.
- They have well-developed powers of abstraction, conceptualization, and synthesis. They readily see cause-effect relationships.
- They often display a questioning attitude and seek information for its own sake as much as for its usefulness.
- They are often skeptical, critical, and evaluative. They are quick to spot inconsistencies.
- They often have a large storehouse of information about a variety of topics, which they can recall quickly.

### **Creative Characteristics :**

Gifted children's creative abilities often set them apart from their age-mates. These characteristics may take the following forms :

- Gifted children are fluent thinkers, able to generate possibilities, consequences, or related ideas.
- They are flexible thinkers, able to use many different alternatives and approaches to problem solving.
- They are original thinkers, seeking new, unusual, or unconventional associations and combinations among items of information.
- They can also see relationships among seemingly unrelated objects, ideas, or facts.

- They are elaborate thinkers, producing new steps, ideas, responses, or other embellishments to a basic idea, situation, or problems.
- They are willing to entertain complexity and seem to thrive on problem solving.
- They are good guessers and can readily construct hypotheses or "what if" questions.

### **Some Myths About Gifted Children :**

#### **Gifted Kids are like cream that rises to the top in a classroom :**

Not necessarily. Gifted Children can have hidden learning disabilities that go undiscovered because they can easily compensate for them in the early years. As time goes on though, it becomes harder and harder for them to excel. Which can lead to behavior problems and depression.

#### **Gifted Kids are so smart they do fine with or without special programs :**

They may appear to do fine on their own. But without proper challenge they can become bored and unruly. As the years go by they may find it harder and harder as work does become more challenging, since they never faced challenge before.

#### **Gifted and Talented means the same thing :**

Again, not necessarily. There is no rule that states that a child who is capable of scoring to the high ninety percentiles on group achievement testing must be considered gifted. We must remember that achievement tests like the Metropolitan Achievement Tests are "Grade Level Testing". Such a child is most definitely Academically Talented. But further individualized IQ and out of level academic testing must be given before we can define that child as "Gifted". At the same time, there is no rule that states a child identified as gifted should be Achieving to high standards in the classroom. This type of stereotyping can do serious and irreversible damage to both groups. ANY child can benefit from enrichment. Academically Talented Children can benefit from Honors (Grade Level) Classes. Intellectually Gifted children need a differentiated curriculum and possibly even a different environment.

#### **They need to go through school with their own age mates :**

Where it's true that children need to play and interact socially with other children their age, they do not need to learn with them. Especially in the case of a highly gifted child who may have a chronological age of six and a mental age of 11 who has been reading since two.

### **Gifted And Talented Children Education and Teaching :**

Academically gifted children have a number of special needs related to their individual level of intelligence and talent. Many incorrectly think that placing presented youngsters in regular classes will help non-gifted scholars learn. There may be nothing further from the actual facts. But first, how are you able to tell if your youngster is academically gifted?

- Frequently bored in regular classes
- Behavior problems in school
- Poor grades even though he / she displays qualities of intelligence
- Getting frustrated easily
- Viewed as arrogant and non-communicative
- Sophisticated for his / her age, particularly in reading and vocabulary

In most states, to be admitted to the school's gifted classes, a kid must first be designated by a teacher or faculty member. Having been brought to the school's attention, he / she's then "screened" or given an initial test. If the outcome of this test is favorable, 3 more tests are administered. Having passed all 3 tests, the parent has the choice of putting the kid in an academically gifted classes.

### **National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) :**

NAGC is a parent support network and helps parents of gifted children to negotiate with schools and authorities seeking special programs and care.

### **Is it Harmful for Regular Kids to Have a Gifted Student in the Same Class :**

Why do academically gifted youngsters not help average kids learn when placed in the same classes? One would presume that a talented kid would grasp what's being taught straight away and would then help out the youngsters who were having a more complicated time understanding the material. Sadly , this isn't the case.

Gifted kids just learn differently, and special care is to be taken to make sure they reach their full potential.

#### **1. Special Program / Enrichment Program :**

- In the special program exercise is more deeper, broad and higher level than contemporary curriculum.
- Most of the teacher and manager s like this route.
- Because init Gifted child also learn with usual children.
- There is no need to sperate them.

- For this special program Cirano and Cuove suggested diverse method.
- Independent Exercise

## **2. To learn rapidly and evaluate it.**

By this method students will complete their exercise rapidly and became free to learn new/likable exercise. It caste away tedium of learning.

## **3. Utilization of Higher Thinking process**

- Teachers duty is to ask Gifted students question rather than usual students question in the class.
- Not only comprehensive, but also analytical, valuebased and logical types of question shall asked, because that enriches our thinking power.

## **Admit in higher school level before the age maturity (Excelleration) :**

1. Early Admission - To admit students earlier before his/her age of maturation, i.e. to admit in Kindergarten.
2. To let remain lower standard and admitted its next.
3. Sometime in First or secondary standards of Gifted students, we get to realize about his/her specialty. At that time we can arrange different types of facility for learning. i.e. to provide two standards syllabus for learning in single year & at the end of academic year we can give the evaluation test of last year.  
In this way in the Exercise we can utilize program learning and computer assisted learning.
4. We can arrange special class for gifted students of school holidays. In the hours we can inculcate knowledge and skills according to these students need.

## **Segregation :**

The conclusion of pre. 1960 Researches were individual training is better than group teaching. It is helpful for Gifted Childs specialty. But today s research conclusion say as that segregation is not final responsibility of us. Their development is based on that experiences which they get after the segregation from usual student.

### **1. Special Class :**

With the help these classes gifted child get opportunity to learn with other Gifted children. They get guidance from the specialist.

### **Objection over method of segegation -**

1. Accordiry to this methodology- Gifted students will study with usual student for short time of a day and then they do the work in their special fields / Interest area.
2. If the number of Gifted students less in city/town side then we cant provide separate facilities for these students. Because this is unaffordable things
3. Then why could not all these school get together and take responsibility of to establish unit of special exercise. e.g. (Music, science and Mathematics field)
4. Special school :  
We can started special school for these types of students rather that starting separate class for them. i.e. Dyanprobhodhani, Pune.

In these school we can arrenge Entrance Test which will based on Intelligent and creative thinking test, So only gifted children get entry in these types of school In these school we can arrange various innovative programmes which implement is now implement in Navaday Vidyalay for the all over development of gifted students.

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