

What is Gifted?



CDE Definition

Gifted students include gifted students with disabilities (i.e. twice exceptional) and students with exceptional abilities or potential from all socio-economic, ethnic, and cultural populations. Gifted students are capable of high performance, exceptional production, or exceptional learning behavior by virtue of any or a combination of these areas of giftedness:

- ✗ General or specific intellectual ability
- ✗ Specific academic aptitude
- ✗ Creative or productive thinking
- ✗ Leadership abilities
- ✗ Visual arts, performing arts, musical or psychomotor abilities 12.01(16)



Traits

No gifted individual is exactly the same, each with his own unique patterns and traits. There are many traits that gifted individuals have in common, but no gifted learner exhibits traits in every area. This list of traits may help you better understand your gifted child.

- ✗ Cognitive
- ✗ Creative
- ✗ Affective
- ✗ Behavioral

[National Association for Gifted Children list of traits](#)



Profiles

It is essential that educators and parents understand the cognitive, emotional, and social needs of the gifted and talented. “Profiles of the gifted and talented” provides a framework for a better understanding of these students by looking closely at their feelings, behavior, and needs.

- ✗ Successful
- ✗ Challenging
- ✗ Underground
- ✗ At Risk
- ✗ Twice Exceptional
- ✗ Autonomous

[Profiles of the Gifted and Talented](#)



Overexcitabilities

The emotional side of giftedness refers to heightened intensity. A Polish psychiatrist and psychologist Kazimierz Dabrowski (1902-1980) studied this intensity in gifted individuals and identified five (5) areas in which he believes that intensity, or overexcitability, appears:

- ✖ Intellectual
- ✖ Psychomotor
- ✖ Sensual
- ✖ Imaginational
- ✖ Emotional

Why Can't They Loosen Up? Intensities of Gifted Youth



Myths

There is a myth that surrounds the gifted child. That they are super smart, that they can figure out anything, that they have all the answers. The problem with these representations is that that giftedness becomes like a gimmick, so when we are faced with a real gifted child, we expect them to do unrealistic, amazing things like some sort of parlor trick.

- ✗ Everything is easy
- ✗ Gifted kids should make excellent grades
- ✗ Gifted Students Don't Need Help; They'll Do Fine On Their Own
- ✗ Gifted Students Are Happy, Popular, And Well Adjusted In School

When Gifted Kids Don't Have All the Answers: How to Meet Their Social and Emotional Needs



BFA Gifted and Talented Website
