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Traits of Giftedness

No gifted individual is exactly the same; each has 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 whether or not your child is gifted.

Cognitive	Creative	Affective	Behavioral
Keen power of abstraction	Creativeness and inventiveness	Unusual emotional depth and intensity	Spontaneity
Interest in problem-solving and applying concepts	Keen sense of humor	Sensitivity or empathy to the feelings of others	Boundless enthusiasm
Voracious and early reader	Ability for fantasy	High expectations of self and others, often leading to feelings of frustration	Intensely focused on passions-resists changing activities when engrossed in own interests
Intellectual curiosity	Openness to stimuli, wide interests	Heightened self-awareness, accompanied by feelings of being different	Highly energetic-needs little sleep or down time
Power of critical thinking, skepticism, self-criticism	Intuitiveness	Easily wounded, need for emotional support	Constantly questions, insatiable curiosity
Persistent, goal-directed behavior	Flexibility	Need for consistency between abstract values and personal actions	Impulsive, eager and spirited
Independence in work and study	Independence in attitude and social behavior	Advanced levels of moral judgement	Perseverance-string determination in areas of importance
Diversity of interests and abilities	Self-acceptance and unconcern for social norms	Idealism and sense of justice	High levels of frustration-particularly when having difficulty meeting standards of performance (either imposed by self or others)
	Radicalism		Volatile temper, especially related to perceptions of failure
	Aesthetic and moral commitment to self-selected work		Non-stop talking/chattering