

Characteristics of gifted child

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Characteristics

According to McAlpine & Reid, 1996, the characteristics of gifted and talented students can be studied in various sections:

- 1. Learning Characteristics**
- 2. Self- Determination Characteristics**
- 3. Creative thinking Characteristics**
- 4. Social Leadership Characteristics**
- 5. Motivational Characteristics**

Learning Characteristics

- ✓ displays logical and analytical thinking
- ✓ is quick to see patterns and relationships
- ✓ masters information quickly
- ✓ strives for accurate and valid solutions to problems
- ✓ easily grasps underlying principles
- ✓ likes intellectual challenge
- ✓ jumps stages in learning
- ✓ seeks to redefine problems, pose ideas, and formulate hypotheses
- ✓ finds as well as solves problems
- ✓ reasons things out for her or himself
- ✓ formulates and supports ideas with evidence
- ✓ can recall a wide range of knowledge
- ✓ independently seeks to discover the why and how of things

Self-Determination Characteristics

- ✓ is sceptical of authoritarian pronouncements
- ✓ questions arbitrary decisions
- ✓ pushes teachers and adults for explanations
- ✓ displays a precocious interest in 'adult' problems
- ✓ is reluctant to practice skills already mastered
- ✓ is easily bored with routine tasks
- ✓ expresses ideas, preferences, and opinions forthrightly
- ✓ relates well to older children and adults, and often prefers their company
- ✓ asks searching questions

Creative thinking Characteristics

- ✓ produces original ideas
- ✓ displays intellectual playfulness, imagination, and fantasy
- ✓ creates original texts or invents things
- ✓ has a keen sense of humour and sees humour in the unusual
- ✓ generates unusual insights
- ✓ enjoys speculation and thinking about the future
- ✓ demonstrates awareness of aesthetic qualities
- ✓ is not afraid to be different
- ✓ generates a large number of ideas
- ✓ is prepared to experiment with novel ideas and risk being wrong
- ✓ seeks unusual rather than conventional relationships

Social Leadership Characteristics

- ✓ takes the initiative in social situations
- ✓ is popular with peers
- ✓ communicates well with others
- ✓ actively seeks leadership in social situations
- ✓ shows ability to inspire a group to meet goals
- ✓ persuades a group to adopt ideas or methods
- ✓ is self-confident
- ✓ is adaptable and flexible in new situations
- ✓ actively seeks leadership in sporting activities
- ✓ is socially mature
- ✓ is willing to take responsibility
- ✓ synthesises ideas from group members to formulate a plan of action

Motivational Characteristics

- ✓ strives for high standards of personal achievement
- ✓ is self directed
- ✓ is highly self motivated and sets personal goals
- ✓ is persistent in seeing tasks to completion
- ✓ becomes committed to and absorbed in tasks
- ✓ tends to be self critical and evaluative
- ✓ is reliable
- ✓ prefers to work independently