



Characteristics of Gifted Children

Characteristic	Positive Behavior	Negative Behavior
Learns rapidly/easily	Memorizes/masters basic facts quickly	Gets bored easily, resists drill, disturbs others
Reads intensively	Reads many books and uses library on own	Neglects other responsibilities
Advanced vocabulary	Communicates ideas well	Shows off, evokes peer resentment
Retains a quantity of information	Ready recall and responses	Monopolizes discussion
Long attention span	Sticks with tasks or projects	Resists class routine, dislikes interruptions
Curious, has a variety of interests	Asks questions, gets excited about ideas	Goes on tangents, no follow through
Works independently	Creates and invents beyond assigned tasks	Refuses to work with others
Alert and observant	Recognizes problems	Impolitely corrects adults
Has a good sense of humor	Able to laugh at self	Plays cruel jokes or tricks on others
Comprehends, recognizes relationships	Able to solve social problems alone	Interferes in the affairs of others
High academic achievement	Does school work well	Braggs, egotistical, impatient with others
Fluent, verbal facility	Forceful with words, numbers; leads peers in positive ways	Leads others into negative behavior
Individualistic	Asserts self and ideas, has few friends; sense of own uniqueness	Stubborn in beliefs
Self-motivated, self sufficient	Requires minimum teacher directions or help	Is overly aggressive, challenges authority