

Glendora School District Gate Program

Gifted Characteristics

This is a list of characteristics that may help distinguish "Bright Children" from "Gifted Learners" as stated by Janice Szabos...

| BRIGHT CHILD | GIFTED LEARNER |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Knows the answers | Asks the question |
| Is interested | Is highly curious |
| Is attentive | Is mentally & physically involved |
| Has good ideas | Has wild, silly ideas |
| Works hard | Plays around yet tests well |
| Answers the questions | Discusses in detail; elaborates |
| Top group | Beyond the top group |
| Listens with interest | Shows strong feelings & opinions |
| Learns with ease | Already knows |
| 6-8 repetitions for mastery | Understands ideas |
| Understands ideas | Constructs abstractions |
| Enjoys peers | Prefers adults |
| Grasps the meaning | Draws inferences |
| Completes assignments | Initiates projects |
| Is receptive | Is intense |
| Copies accurately | Creates a new design |
| Enjoys school | Enjoys learning |
| Absorbs information | Manipulates information |
| Technician | Inventor |
| Good memory | Good guesser |
| Is alert | Is keenly observant |
| Is pleased with own learning | Is highly self-critical |
| Enjoys straightforward, sequential, presentations | Thrives on complexity |

In her book, Differentiating Instruction in the Regular Classroom, Dr. Diane Heacox compiled a list of typical characteristics of gifted learners:

- High levels of retention with an extraordinary amount of information
- An accelerated pace of learning
- Advanced comprehension, deep understanding
- Usually varied interests and curiosity
- An advanced vocabulary
- Flexibility of thinking
- An ability to generate original ideas and solutions
- An ability to think in abstract terms and sense consequences
- Evaluative, judgmental thinking
- Persistent goal-directed behavior

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