

Most Prevalent Characteristics of Giftedness

- 99.4% learn rapidly
- 99.4% have extensive vocabulary
- 99.3% have excellent memory
- 99.3% reason well
- 97.9% are curious
- 96.1% are mature for their age at times
- 95.9% have an excellent sense of humor
- 93.8% have a keen sense of observation
- 93.5% have compassion for others
- 93.4% have a vivid imagination
- 93.4% have a long attention span
- 92.9% have ability with numbers
- 90.3% are concerned with justice and fairness
- 89.4% have facility with puzzles and legos
- 88.4% have a high energy level
- 88.3% are perfectionistic
- 85.9% are perseverant in their areas of interest
- 84.1% question authority
- 80.3% are avid readers

90% were described by their parents as "sensitive."

83% like to concentrate on one activity at a time.

79% report high energy or activity levels.

44% are sensitive to clothing tags and other tactile sensations.

Strengths	Possible Problems
Acquires/retains information quickly	Impatient with others, dislikes basic routines
Inquisitive; searches for significance	Asks embarrassing questions; excessive in interests
Intrinsic motivation	Strong-willed; resists direction
Enjoys problem solving; able to conceptualize, abstract, synthesize	Resists routine practice; questions teaching procedures
Seeks cause-effect relations	Dislikes unclear/illogical areas (e.g., traditions or feelings)
Emphasizes truth, equity, and fair play	Worries about humanitarian concerns
Seeks to organize things and people	Constructs complicated rules; often seen as bossy
Strong sense of humor	Peers may misunderstand humor; may become class clown for attention

Strengths	Possible Problems
Large vocabulary; advanced, broad information	May use words to manipulate; bored with school and age-peers
High expectations of self and others	Intolerant, perfectionistic; may become depressed
Creative/inventive; likes new ways of doing things	May be seen as disruptive and out of step
Intense concentration; long attention span and persistence in areas of interest	Neglects duties or people during periods of focus; resists interruption; stubbornness
Sensitivity, empathy, desire to be accepted by others	Sensitivity to criticism or peer rejection
High energy, alertness, eagerness	Frustration with inactivity; may be seen as hyperactive
Independent; prefers individualized work; reliant on self	May reject parent or peer input; nonconformity
Diverse interests and abilities; versatility	May appear disorganized or scattered; frustrated over lack of time