

# Gifted children

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# Gifted student and their training

Students who have general mental ability or artistic skills are called gifted students. These students are Daviant in the sense that they differ from normal students in a classroom and need special guidance. Just like learning disabled and mentally retarded students gifted students are exceptional. While mentally retarded students are at one extreme of the learning curve ,gifted students are at the other extreme .



# Defining gifted children

Lewis Terman(1925) the developer of Stanford Binet scale found from a longitudinal study of 12 year old children that those with IQ above 135 can be called gifted. But this view had not been unanimously accepted.

In contemporary research the stress is not on IQ score but on common traits of gifted children.

People who have achieved recognition as a gifted possess well define set off three interlocking cluster of traits

1 high mental ability 2 ability for creative problem solving 3 high motivation and dedication.



# Some common traits of gifted child

1. Thinking , imagination, learning, leadership
2. Potential to perform in at least the top 5% area of abilities
- 3 . Good at handling abstract and complex ideas
4. Boundless curiosity
5. Sophisticated sense of humour
6. Interesting difficult or unexpected questions
7. Sceptical ,critical ,evaluation and quick spot inconsistencies



# Do they need training?

As pointed out by many psychologist that not every gifted child become successful but every gifted child has potential to become successful.

giftedness is related to mental ability but success is related to many other factors such as motivation and dedication, contextual stimulation to help them realise their potential and proper guidance.

Therefore gifted children also need training for there better performance and success in life.



# Some major problem faced by gifted children.

1. Curiosity- the gifted children are curious. This is a plus but it also create a problem. Gifted children often ask many thought provoking questions in the class.as the teacher get frustrated that she doesn't know the answer to the question she may also think that the student is showing wilful disobedience. Often the prime focus of the teacher is to complete the syllabus hence she is not responsive to the intellectual need of the child rather than discouraging the student



2. Discipline- mini school works on the principle of discipline. Some gifted students are quite talkative and imaginative. Discipline does not suit them as discipline expects similar behaviour from every child. When they break the discipline they are punished. Punishment tells them what behaviour not to emit but not what behaviour to emit. This leaves them frustrated.

3. Teaching method- gifted student demand different teaching methods. Highly gifted students learn not only faster than others but also differently. Standard teaching methods try to simplify complex subject, gifted student thrives on complexity. Students get frustrated with the teaching method.



Rote memorization is a standard learning method in school. But gifted students are conceptually driven. If they are expected to do rote mugging they can't do it . As result it is possible that they will be eacademic underachievers.

4. Comfort- once parents and teachers find out that a child is gifted their expectation from her are high. They put unusual pressure on child to perform. This makes the child feel uncomfortable



5. Multiple ages - A 5 year old child may read like in nine year old, play chess like a 10 year old, and talk to toys like 2 year old. Because the child lives many ages simultaneously parents and teachers sometimes misunderstood them for being too arrogant, too mature, or too childish

5. Social problem- gifted children are skeptical, critical, evaluative and quick to spot inconsistency. Because of their superior skills sometimes they become arrogant. Most gifted children have problems in adjusting to their social context. they are usually not popular in their peer groups and they don't find their peers in the peer group interesting.



# Interventions for gifted students

1 the first step of intervention is assessment. The assessment doesn't simply mean taking an IQ test. this is because many gifted students are immensely talented in one area of intelligence and quiet average in other. The task of assessment is to evaluate the exact nature of giftedness.

2 further the school psychologist has to select a suitable educational setting for the gifted students need. There should be list respective environment for gifted student

3. special skill development should be given to the gifted students through specialised program focus on specific talents.

