

Behavior Newsletter



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Characteristics of a Gifted Student

Issue 3

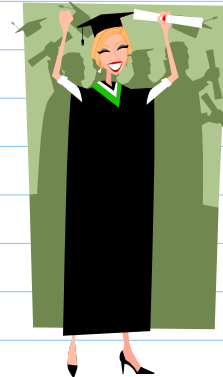
It is not always easy for teachers to identify students in need of referral to Pupil Appraisal for a Gifted evaluation. Gifted students don't always fit the "perfect" mold. Many times these bright students are underachievers. Many gifted students will continually do well on achievement, standardized, or reasoning tests, but will fail to turn in assignments, attend to the teacher, or participate in class.

Generally, gifted individuals learn more quickly, deeply, and broadly than their peers. Gifted children may learn to read early and operate at the same level as normal children who are significantly older. A child in

need of a referral for gifted evaluation tends to demonstrate high reasoning ability, creativity, curiosity, have a large vocabulary, and an excellent memory. They often can master concepts with few repetitions. They may also be physically and emotionally sensitive, perfectionistic, and may question authority. Some have trouble relating to or communicating with their peers because of disparities in vocabulary size (especially in the early years), personality, and interests. As children, they may prefer the company of older children or adults.

Think about the students in your classroom. Do any of these characteris-

tics describe your students? If so contact the SBLC Chairperson at your school to obtain the necessary paperwork for a referral to Pupil Appraisal.



Special points of interest:

- ✓ Gifted referrals can be submitted at any time to your SBLC
- ✓ Talented referrals are accepted twice a year
- ✓ Talented referrals are accepted in October and February

Characteristics of a Talented Student

Teachers have asked, what does a talented student look like? The Pupil Appraisal Handbook defines talent as possession of measurable abilities that give clear evidence of unique talent in visual or performing arts.

Generally, talented students have exceptional ability and/or appreciation for art, music, and/or theatre, have highly creative thinking, an ability to think on their feet, an ability to view and express things from an un-

usual perspective, total absorption and enjoyment in artistic performances, and/or be very perceptive of the feelings and talents of others. If your students have these characteristics, contact your SBLC chairperson.

