

Gifted & Talented Areas of Strength



Identification of gifted students is a systematic, ongoing process that can occur in a variety of areas:



INTELLECTUAL ABILITY / ACADEMIC APTITUDE

The potential (**General Intellectual Ability**) or demonstrated ability (**Academic Aptitude**) to perform at exceptionally high levels of achievement in one or more academic areas.

Intellectually/Academically gifted students demonstrate potential in a variety of cognitive areas, such as abstract reasoning, and the analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of information; as well as a consistently outstanding mental capacity as compared to children of one's age (*usually at or above the 95th percentile.*)



CREATIVE / PRODUCTIVE THINKING

Imaginative thinking and the ability to come up with many, varied, and unusual responses to problems or questions. [*'Outside the box' thinking, NOT artistic ability.*]

Creatively gifted students often see problems others do not see, make connections among seemingly unrelated concepts and ideas, find humor in many situations, make adaptations or improvements on ideas and tend to be non-conformists. [*This area is more related to divergent, 'outside the box' thinking, NOT artistic ability.*]



LEADERSHIP ABILITIES

The ability to articulate ideas well, orally and/or in written form, have clear opinions on actions and ideas to pursue, and are able to convince others to carry them out.

Leaders may be quiet or extroverted. They are skilled at bringing structure to activities on which they are working, at following through, and at cooperating and getting others to cooperate. They are able to articulate a clear vision, motivate others, sustain leadership, and get others to follow their lead to accomplish the vision.



VISUAL ARTS / SPECIFIC TALENT APTITUDE

Exceptional ability in visual arts, or a specific talent aptitude, as demonstrated by high-level unique products and/or performances in a specific talent area.

Artistically gifted students are usually very sensitive to artistic concepts and elements and are able to utilize these concepts and elements to arrive at unique and unconventional solutions to artistic problems. They have unique perspectives and can convey these through various artistic media.