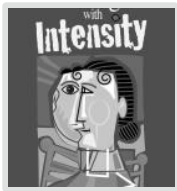


Information & Publications

- Resources
- NAGC Publications
- For Administrators
- For Educators
- For Parents
- Motivation and Learning
- Planning for Summer
- Social & Emotional Issues
- Young Bright Children
- Gifted Children's Bill of Rights
- Is My Child Gifted?
- Games, Toys and Gifted Children
- Parent Information TIP Sheets
- Recursos Para los Padres de Familia
- Starting a Parent Group
- Supporting Twice-Exceptional Students
- For University Professionals
- Gifted Education Strategies
- Gifted By State
- NAGC Online Store
- NAGC Gifted & Talented Resources Directory

Living with Intensity



Common Characteristics of Gifted Individuals

Because gifted children are so diverse, not all exhibit all characteristics all of the time. However, there are common characteristics that many gifted individuals share:

- Unusual alertness, even in infancy
- Rapid learner; puts thoughts together quickly
- Excellent memory
- Unusually large vocabulary and complex sentence structure for age
- Advanced comprehension of word nuances, metaphors and abstract ideas
- Enjoys solving problems, especially with numbers and puzzles
- Often self-taught reading and writing skills as preschooler
- Deep, intense feelings and reactions
- Highly sensitive
- Thinking is abstract, complex, logical, and insightful
- Idealism and sense of justice at early age
- Concern with social and political issues and injustices
- Longer attention span and intense concentration
- Preoccupied with own thoughts—daydreamer
- Learn basic skills quickly and with little practice
- Asks probing questions
- Wide range of interests (or extreme focus in one area)
- Highly developed curiosity
- Interest in experimenting and doing things differently
- Puts idea or things together that are not typical
- Keen and/or unusual sense of humor
- Desire to organize people/things through games or complex schemas
- Vivid imaginations (and imaginary playmates when in preschool)

Explore More on Gifted Children

Traits of Giftedness

Social Emotional Issues

Very Young Children