



CAREER AND COLLEGE
Gifted Services
Excellence in Education

Onslow County Schools

AIG Focus

Monthly Goal: Student participates and cooperates in group work and classroom discussions.

Giftedness and Introversion

For the introverted child, it is the warm acceptance by others that allows for a healthy development of self and for being-in-the-world with authenticity. Understanding the characteristics and needs of introverted youngsters facilitates the accommodations needed for these quiet kids to develop optimally.

Characteristics of Introverts

- Have two personas: private and public
- Seem to enjoy being alone in their room
- Are private people who reveal thoughts to only a few
- Get grouchy when around people too long
- Are perfectionistic

Strategies That Can Benefit Introverted Children

- ⇒ Outdoor Activities: Spending time in nature allows for a solitary experience of connection without communicating directly with other people.
- ⇒ Solitary Exercise: Examples are martial arts, track, gymnastics, and swimming, rather than a team sport like basketball.
- ⇒ Video games; computer time; listening to music; watching a movie: These activities allow for decompression.
- ⇒ Creative Activities: These pursuits provide opportunities to be alone without being lonely.
- ⇒ Meditation or Visualization: Engaging in these practices can provide quiet times of centering and regaining a sense of calm.

To read more about Introversion and how you can help your child at home, check out the whole article, "Joy and Challenge: Giftedness and Introversion" by Dorothy Sisk, Ed.D., Ph.D., and Michele Kane, Ed.D.

Director's Discussion

Skill x Effort = Achievement

A while back I used the above "formula" to discuss the importance of developing both academic talents as well as personal drive in order to achieve goals. I think that is all still very true.

However, I was thinking about a multiplier that may need to be added which is "Opportunities" or "Experiences." Providing kids with experiences is so critical to growth. This summer I heard a student speaker share that the reason his teacher was so impactful was that, "she could have made it an assignment, but instead she made it an experience." Getting to experience a variety of things is key to lasting learning.

How kids engage in learning can vary especially when we think about introverted and extroverted personalities. Introverted students will often ask, "Do I have to work with a group?" I believe our responsible answer as adults is, "Not all the time." There are times when we do need to encourage cooperation. Some kids are going to do this more naturally. The critical part is providing opportunity and supporting the effort of our kids. So perhaps we revise our equation:

Opportunities * (Skill x Effort) = Achievement
—Dr. Michael Elder, College and Career Readiness

A note from your specialist...

Here is a snapshot of what we have been doing in the AIG pullout groups.

4th Grade Reading: Students continued their work with their "Genius" research project. They have just begun presenting their ppts they created from this research.

4th Grade Math: Students have been working on advanced classroom standards to include multi-digit multiplication and now just starting long division.

5th Grade Reading: Students are finishing up their inferencing work on King Tut and his demise and are preparing their theories by displaying their findings and evidence in a poster format.

5th Grade Math: Students just finished up their volume animal projects. We will be moving into exploring decimals and using exponents.

4th/5th Grade IG: Students have been working on exploring their creative capabilities.

We will move into using technology and coding these next months.

3rd Grade Push-In Classes: We have been preparing for our Sweep Screen tests that will take place in December.

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