

## Common Characteristics of Gifted Children:

- Ability to comprehend material several grade levels above their age peers
- Surprising emotional depth and sensitivity at a young age
- Strong sense of curiosity
- Enthusiastic about unique interests and topics
- Quirky or mature sense of humor
- Creative problem solving and imaginative expression
- Absorbs information quickly with few repetitions needed
- Self-aware, socially aware, and aware of global issues

## Characteristics of Gifted Learners

- It is important to note that many of the characteristics of gifted learners can be exhibited both positively and negatively. For example: a student who asks many questions about daily lessons or assignments may be seen as wonderfully knowledgeable and curious, or bothersome and non-focused.
- Gifted students are not always easy to teach! Many times they question authority, stubbornly adhere to their own agendas, make inappropriate comments and jokes, disrupt the class with their high energy and/or attempt to direct others' activities.

- Alternatively, they may exhibit withdrawal, sensitivity, and perfectionism.
- They may worry about everything and everyone, or they may seem to be so engrossed in their own interests they display little empathy for others.
- Teachers and parents should recognize that giftedness should not be equated with behavior. Gifted students may be either compliant or forceful.
- Most importantly, one must consider the student's capacity for advanced, deep, rich, and complex thought.

## **Information from**

Davidson Institute

<https://www.davidsongifted.org/prospective-families/gifted-traits-and-characteristics/>

CCSD GATE Handbook