



Cognitive Characteristics of Intellectually Gifted Students:

- Process and retain large amounts of information
- Comprehend materials at advanced levels
- Curious and have varied and sometimes intense interests
- High levels of language development and verbal ability
- Possess accelerated and flexible thought processes
- Early ability to delay closure of projects
- See unusual relationships among disciplines or objects
- Adept at generating original ideas and solutions to problems
- Persistent, goal-oriented, and intense on topics of interest
- Form their own ways of thinking about problems and ideas
- Learn things at an earlier age than peers
- Need for freedom and individuality in learning situations
- High desire to learn and seek out their own interests
- Abstract thinkers at an earlier age than peers
- Prefer complex and challenging work
- Transfer knowledge and apply it to new situations
- May prefer to work alone
- May be early readers
- May possess high energy levels and longer attention spans

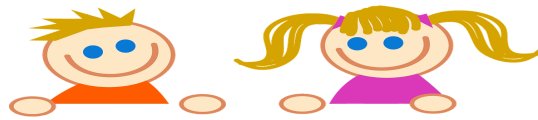
(Chuska 1989; Clark 2002; Silverman 2000; Winebrenner 2001)



Affective Characteristics of Intellectually Gifted Students:

- Possess large amounts of information about emotions
- May possess an unusual sensitivity to the feelings of others
- Possess a keen or subtle sense of humor
- Possess a heightened sense of self-awareness
- Idealism and sense of justice appear at an early age
- Develop inner controls early
- Possess unusual emotional depth and intensity
- Exhibit high expectations of self and others
- Display a strong need for consistency in themselves and others
- Possess advanced levels of moral judgment

(Chuska 1989; Clark 2002; Silverman 2000; Winebrenner 2001)



Characteristics of Atypical Gifted Students:

- Ability to manipulate a symbol system
- Think logically
- Ability to use stored knowledge to solve problems
- Reason by analogy
- Transfer knowledge to new circumstances
- May possess creative and artistic abilities
- Resilient; able to cope with trying family situations
- Take on adult roles in the home
- Strong sense of pride and self-worth
- Exhibit leadership ability and independent thinking
- Possess a strong desire to learn about and understand their culture
- Display a strong inner will
- May display a heightened sensitivity to others and the world around them

(Bonner 2000; Hebert and Reis 1999; Schwartz 1997)