

## CHARACTERISTICS OF GIFTED CHILDREN

The following is a list of typical characteristics of gifted children including positive/ negative behaviors which may be exhibited by some gifted children ([www.oagc.com](http://www.oagc.com)).

CHARACTERISTIC	POSITIVE BEHAVIOR	NEGATIVE BEHAVIOR
learns rapidly/easily	memorizes and masters basic facts quickly	gets bored easily, resists drill, disturbs others, may underachieve
reads intensively	reads many books and uses library on own	neglects other responsibilities
perfectionistic	exceptional accomplishments	intolerant of mistakes
retains a quantity of information	ready recall and responses	monopolizes discussion
long attention span	sticks with a task or project	resists class routine, dislikes interruptions
curious, has a variety of interests, imaginative	asks questions, gets excited about ideas, takes risks	goes on tangents, no follow-through, disorganized
works independently	creates and invents beyond assigned tasks	refuses to work with others
alert and observant	recognizes problems	impolitely corrects adults
has a good sense of humor	able to laugh at self	plays cruel jokes or tricks on others
comprehends, recognizes relationships	able to solve social problems alone	interferes in the affairs of others
high academic achievement	does school work well	brags, egotistical, impatient with others
fluent, verbal facility, advanced vocabulary	forceful with words, numbers; leads peers in positive ways	leads others into negative behaviors, bossy
Individualistic strong-willed	asserts self and ideas, has small circle of friends; sense of own uniqueness	stubborn in beliefs
CHARACTERISTIC	POSITIVE BEHAVIOR	NEGATIVE BEHAVIOR
self-motivated, self sufficient	requires minimum teacher direction or help	is overly aggressive, challenges authority
prefers older peers	wise beyond years compared to same age peers	isolated or misunderstood
highly sensitive, passionate	emphasizes fairness and morality, compassionate	overreacts to situations