

Characteristics of Exceptionally Able Students

Exceptionally able children are likely to show some of the following characteristics. However, it is important to remember that every child is an individual and so will have their own particular strengths, talents and weaknesses.

1. Keen powers of observation
2. Have learned to read early (often well before school age)
3. Read rapidly and widely
4. Well developed vocabulary – takes a delight in using new and unusual words
5. Have great intellectual curiosity
6. Absorb information rapidly – often described as being like sponges
7. Very good memory – can recall information in different circumstances
8. Have the ability to concentrate deeply for prolonged periods
9. Very good powers of reasoning and problem solving
10. Have intense interests
11. Possess unusual imagination
12. Have a great interest in ‘big questions’ eg the nature of the universe, the problem of suffering in the world, environmental issues
13. Very sensitive – perhaps becoming upset easily
14. Very aware of rights and wrongs, concerned about injustices