

Highly Capable Learner Characteristics

We, as a community, believe highly capable students are those who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences, or environments. Outstanding abilities are seen within students' general intellectual aptitudes, specific academic abilities, and/or creative productivities within a specific domain. These students are present not only in the general populace, but are present within all protected classes.

The following behaviors are often observed in highly capable students. It is unlikely that a student will demonstrate all these behaviors. If a child **almost always** displays several of these behaviors, please complete the referral form.

Behaviors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Makes connections with what is already known• Tries to apply new information to other contexts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learns new information easily• Remembers information in vast quantities easily
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Makes generalizations and draws conclusions that summarize complex information easily• Can orient self and figures in space easily
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pursues interests to satisfy own curiosity• Wants to know why and how
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is alert, observant beyond years• Easily understands how others feel or think
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follows own ideas, rather than others'• Uses own set of values to dictate behavior
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upset with sad, negative, hurtful events related through some form of communication (book, movie...)• Easily hurt by others' negative actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learned to speak and read considerably earlier than age mates• Uses extensive vocabulary
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Highly motivated and skilled in a specific subject area or domain• Stays attentive and alert when new or complex information is being given
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is not balanced in skills and abilities• Very good in some things but not everything
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approaches ideas from a number of perspectives• Produces large number of ideas easily

Adapted from the Parent Inventory for Finding Potential by Karen Rogers, 2002