

PANNING FOR GOLD

TABs Descriptors

The chart includes brief definitions and descriptions of the TRAITS, APTITUDES, and BEHAVIORS (TABs) commonly associated with gifted children. The chart may be helpful in recognizing the potential of students in your classroom.

<p><u>MOTIVATION</u> Evidence of desire to learn.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Forces that initiate direct and sustain individual or group behavior in order to satisfy a need or attain a goal.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates persistence in pursuing/completing self-selected tasks (may be culturally influenced); evident in school or non-school type activities is an enthusiastic learner aspires to be somebody or to accomplish something 	<p><u>INTERESTS</u> Intense (sometimes unusual) interests.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Activities, avocations, objects, etc., that have special work or significance and are given special attention.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates unusual or advanced interests in a topic or activity is a self-starter acts in a manner beyond age-group peers pursues activity unceasingly 	<p><u>COMMUNICATION SKILLS</u> Highly expressive; effective use of words, numbers, or symbols.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Transmission and reception of signals or meanings through a system of symbols (codes, gestures, language, numbers).</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates unusual ability to communicate verbally, physically, artistically, or symbolically uses particularly apt examples, illustrations, or elaborations 	<p><u>PROBLEM-SOLVING ABILITY</u> Effective, often inventive, strategies for recognizing and solving problems.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Process of determining a correct sequence of alternatives leading to a desired goal or successful task completion.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates unusual ability to devise or adapt a systematic strategy for solving problems and to change the strategy if it is not working creates new designs is an inventor/innovator 	<p><u>MEMORY</u> Large storehouse of information on school or non-school topics.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Exceptional ability to retain and retrieve information.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> already knows information before it is formally presented needs only 1-2 repetitions for mastery has a wealth of information about school or non-school topics pays attention to details manipulates information
<p><u>INQUIRY</u> Questions, experiments, explores.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Method or process of seeking knowledge, understanding, or information.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> asks unusual questions for age plays around with ideas Demonstrates extensive exploratory behaviors directed toward eliciting information about materials, devices, or situations 	<p><u>INSIGHT</u> Quickly grasps new concepts and makes connections; senses deeper meanings.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Sudden discovery of the correct solution following incorrect attempts based primarily on trial and error.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates exceptional ability to draw inferences appears to be a good guesser . . . keenly observant possesses heightened capacity for seeing unusual and diverse relationships integrates ideas and disciplines 	<p><u>REASONING</u> Logical approaches to figuring out solutions.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Highly conscious, directed, controlled, active, intentional, forward-looking, goal oriented thought.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> makes generalizations uses metaphors and analogies can think things through in a logical manner thinks critically . . . comes up with plausible answers 	<p><u>IMAGINATION / CREATIVITY</u> Produces many ideas; highly original.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Process or forming mental images of objects, qualities, situations, or relationships which are not immediately apparent to the senses. Problem-solving through nontraditional patterns of thinking.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows exceptional ingenuity in using everyday materials creates wild, seemingly silly ideas, often fluently and flexibly 	<p><u>HUMOR</u> Conveys and picks up on humor.</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Ability to synthesize key ideas or problems in complex situations in a humorous way.</p> <p><u>How it may look:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> keen sense of humor that may be gentle or hostile sees unusual relationships demonstrates unusual emotional depth demonstrates sensory awareness