

10 Facts

YOU MAY NOT KNOW

About Gifted Children

BUT SHOULD

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1

It is widely acknowledged that giftedness is an inherent attribute.

Although a few believe giftedness can be achieved through nurturing, the overwhelming consensus is that giftedness is present at birth, an inherited trait.

2



Gifted children do not always excel in school.

Despite having above-average cognitive abilities, if a gifted child's educational needs are not met appropriately, he may not show exceptional achievement in school.



3

Gifted children can and do have learning disabilities.

Gifted children with learning disabilities often go unidentified because their advanced cognitive abilities often mask their learning disabilities.



4

Gifted children often develop asynchronously.

A 12 year old child who understands high school algebra and science, but is unable to sleep at night alone without a nightlight is an example of asynchronous development.



5

Gifted children can have overexcitabilities (OE's).

A buzzing sound which causes irritability and the inability to move on until the sound is located and stopped or the gritty texture in her mom's turkey gravy which causes a gifted teen to refrain from eating the dinner are all examples of OE's.



6

Gifted children often have difficulty finding like-minded friends.

Gifted children can have a difficult time finding friends or same-age peers who share and understand their intellectual interests and quirky traits.



7

Gifted children often feel like they don't fit in.

Feelings of isolation and not belonging can eventually lead to emotional struggles, depression, dropping out of school and even suicide.



8

Gifted children are gifted in and out of school.

The emotional intensities, asynchrony and social struggles leave school with the gifted child and follow him home.



9

Being gifted is not a net-positive situation.

Being smarter or able to grasp and master concepts and skills above grade level is not a guarantee that any child has it made and will be successful in life.



10

Raising a gifted child is not easy.

Given the educational considerations, overexcitabilities, social struggles and asynchrony, life with a gifted child can easily come with its share of bumps in the road.

