

# Is This Child Gifted?

## Language Skills

Psychology Today

Some of the traits of giftedness to look for when considering your child's language development in relation to others of a similar age include:

- A

- A tendency to read often on their own and to frequently prefer reading to more physical activities.
- Little need for direction or instruction when beginning a new activity, learning a new game, or acquiring a new skill. They may also insist on doing things on their own, or in their own way.
- Pleasure in talking to older children and adults about topics that interest them.
- An understanding of their own thinking and learning processes. They may have preferred ways of learning and resist using other methods suggested by a teacher or adult.
- Creative thinking. Gifted children may enjoy coming up with their own ways to solve problems and take delight in complexity and making connections between seemingly unrelated ideas or concepts.
- The ability to concentrate on a topic of interest for an unusually long period of time. However, gifted children may quickly shift their attention or appear unfocused when doing something they perceive as unchallenging or uninteresting.
- An inclination to see learning as fun. They take joy in discovering new interests or grasping new concepts.

### **Emotional and Behavioral Traits**

Gifted children are often more emotionally intense than others. They can also be more sensitive to others' feelings and circumstances and may display a great deal of empathy in situations where others their age appear indifferent.

### ***Other emotional or behavioral traits to look for include:***

- A high activity level. Gifted children can appear to have an endless source of energy - constantly moving, talking, asking and exploring.
- The tendency to think and talk fast. Because they may be trying to speak as quickly as they think, gifted children are often asked to "slow down" so the listener can understand them.
- Strong leadership