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I. Characteristics of Gifted Children – they often:

- a. Think rapidly and deeply
- b. Sense and feel things acutely, both physically and emotionally
- c. Possess heightened sense of fairness
- d. Imagine vividly
- e. Develop asynchronously
- f. Score well on IQ tests – high end of the bell curve

[*Is It a Cheetah?*](#) by Stephanie Tolan

[*Common Characteristics of the Gifted Learner*](#) by Janice Szabos¹ (*)

[*Characteristics of Extreme Intelligence*](#) by Barbara Clark

[*Dabrowski's Over-excitabilities- A Layman's Explanation*](#) by Stephanie Tolan

II. Common Problems for Gifted Children

- a. **Perfectionism** - *won't count as failure if I didn't try*
- b. **Underachievement** - *to be more like everyone else, daydreaming, unwillingness to "relearn" or busy with "more important" work.*
- c. **Complexity of Thought**
- d. **Idealism** - *values conflict and impotence*
- e. **Loneliness & Depression**
- f. **No Practice in Tackling Difficult Problems**
- g. **Lack of Good Study Skills**
- h. **Masked Learning Disabilities**

[*Gifted Children Need:*](#) by Elizabeth Meckstroth

[*Parenting Emotionally Intense Gifted Children*](#) by Lesley Sword

[*The Do's and Don'ts for Raising Gifted Kids*](#) by Deborah Ruf

[*Myths and Truths About Gifted Children*](#) by the Council for Exceptional Children

III. Testing and Identification

- a. **To test or not to test...**- *test to answer question, not to get a number*
- b. **What testing is out there?**

http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/why_test.htm

¹ Found on the back of the blue GECO membership trifold.

IV. Education

- a. **Learning Difference**
 - Less repetitions
 - Big picture to details
- b. **Enrichment versus acceleration**
- c. **Clustering, ability-grouping and tracking**
- d. **Pull-out versus push-in**
- e. **Show and go**
- f. **Heterogeneous versus homogeneous classes**

[It's a Learning Difference](#) by Tamara Fisher

[Rights of Students](#) by Carol J. Morreale

[Parent's Guide to Educational Vocabulary](#) by Arlene DeVries

V. Our School District

- a. **K-2nd Grade:**

In class differentiation, teacher requested pullout by gifted specialists.
- b. **3rd-5th Grade:**

Language arts and math acceleration, plus for *globally exceptionally* gifted: the ACE program.
- c. **6th-8th Grade:**

Accelerated and advanced math, advanced language arts and for the *exceptionally* gifted: ACE
District 181 gifted info: follow "academics" tab on <http://www.d181.org/> - gifted

VI. Gifted Education and the Law

- a. **Gifted in Illinois** - *Illinois Association for Gifted Children* - www.IAGCgifted.org
- b. **Gifted in the US** - *National Association for Gifted Children* - www.nagc.org
- *Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted* - www.sengifted.org
- c. **No Child Left Behind**

VII. Good Resources about Raising Gifted Children

- [***Guiding the Gifted Child***](#) – Webb, Meckstroth and Tolan
(Or the more recent [***A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children***](#) by Webb, Gore, Amend and DeVries)
- [***Survival Guide For Parents of Gifted Kids***](#) – Sally Walker
(also available: [survival guides for the kids!](#))
- Hoagies Gifted Education Page – <http://www.hoagiesgifted.org>