

GT-ED-270: Guidance and Counseling for the Gifted

Student Learning Outcomes

- Identify common attitudes, biases, and preconceived expectations held about gifted children by teachers, parents, age-related peers, and throughout American society.
- Discuss the many ways these attitudes affect the everyday lives of gifted children and impact educational services available to them.
- Identify several current definitions of giftedness. Note the impact each definition has in a school situation, at home and in society at large.
- Attain a developmental understanding of gifted individuals across the life span from infancy to adulthood incorporating a holistic perspective (namely: intellectual, physical, social, and spiritual/moral).
- Describe how the interaction between the environment and innate capabilities affects productivity throughout life.
- Understand the inner experience of gifted children.
- Become familiar with Dabrowski's Theory of Positive Disintegration and the importance of Developmental Potential and Overexcitabilities in understanding the gifted.
- Become cognizant of personality variables that affect the social and emotional well-being of gifted children.
- Understand the distinguishing characteristics of emotional and spiritual giftedness.
- Understand strengths and vulnerabilities of a gifted individual that originate from within the self.
- Understand vulnerabilities that are due to another's reaction to giftedness.
- Understand the vulnerabilities that are due to a specific circumstance.
- Realize that some researchers further categorize gifted people by IQ scores, into highly and profoundly gifted categories.
- Understand that a person who has an I.Q. that is two or more standard deviations above the norm will have greater difficulty finding peers and will be misunderstood by others.
- Recognize that a person with an I.Q. two or more standard deviations above the norm is different.
- Understand that any grouping of traits for profoundly gifted individuals is merely for convenience of presentation.
- Describe the different social and emotional needs of gifted students from special populations, including gender, ethnicity and culture, socioeconomic status, twice exceptional, and underachieving students.
- Realize the need for additional or different assessment tools to identify special population students.
- Learn how to recognize, understand, and support gifted children with multiple differences.
- Identify risk factors and resiliency as related to gifted students.
- Enumerate what you can do as a teacher to help students at risk.
- List symptoms in children and adults of addiction and physical or sexual abuse.

- Read Templeton National Report on Acceleration- A nation deceived: How schools hold back America's brightest students. Vol. 1 and 2. (2004) and A Nation Empowered. Vol. 1 and 2 (2015) Colangelo, N., Assouline, S., & Gross, M.
- Understand two categories of acceleration - grade based and subject based - and list 18 acceleration options that respond to gifted students' academic needs and support their social and emotional well-being.
- Compare and contrast Florida's Acceleration Statute 1002.3105 f. s. with your district's schools' policies and activities for acceleration.
- Recognize home-schooling as a positive option for some gifted students and families.
- Be aware of myths, fears and expectations of teachers and administrators that hold back students and the research that responds to these concerns.
- Understand the need for supportive services for gifted individuals due to the complexity and sensitivity of their nature.
- Recognize that a counselor, therapist, or psychologist must be educated in the gifted field so not to misdiagnosis common characteristics of gifted individuals as pathology.
- Realize counseling provides empathy and partnership in times of need.
- Identify activities and resources to assist K-12 students who are gifted in planning for further education, career, or life choices.
- Recognize that guidance and career counseling support gifted individuals in decision-making for positive life choices.
- Learn how to help students develop social skills and inspire leadership.
- Support gifted children's experience of global interconnectedness and personal responsibility to take action.
- Realize that a primary need in life is to belong.
- Help gifted children to appreciate that their profound sensitivity and empathy can be channeled to help humankind.
- Recognize that perceptivity, empathy, ethics, values, integrity, and leadership are related.
- Acquire and refine the knowledge and skills needed to advocate for gifted learners.
- Identify how parent, teacher, and educational advocates can positively affect gifted services and programming.
- Identify advocacy issues, needs, resources, educational laws, skills, and strategies.
- Support the necessity of self-advocacy by gifted students.
- Understand that gifted children naturally have unique needs that parents are challenged to address daily.
- Recognize that parents of gifted children need guidance and support to respond suitably to additional needs and demands of their children.
- Realize that parents of gifted children may experience isolation from other parents due to other's lack of understanding; societal expectations and myths; jealousy; competition; and lack of acceptance that gifted children have special needs.
- Understand the significance of the quote from Mr. Rogers: "The best parents can do for children is to listen to them."