
A Parent's Guide to the Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Students



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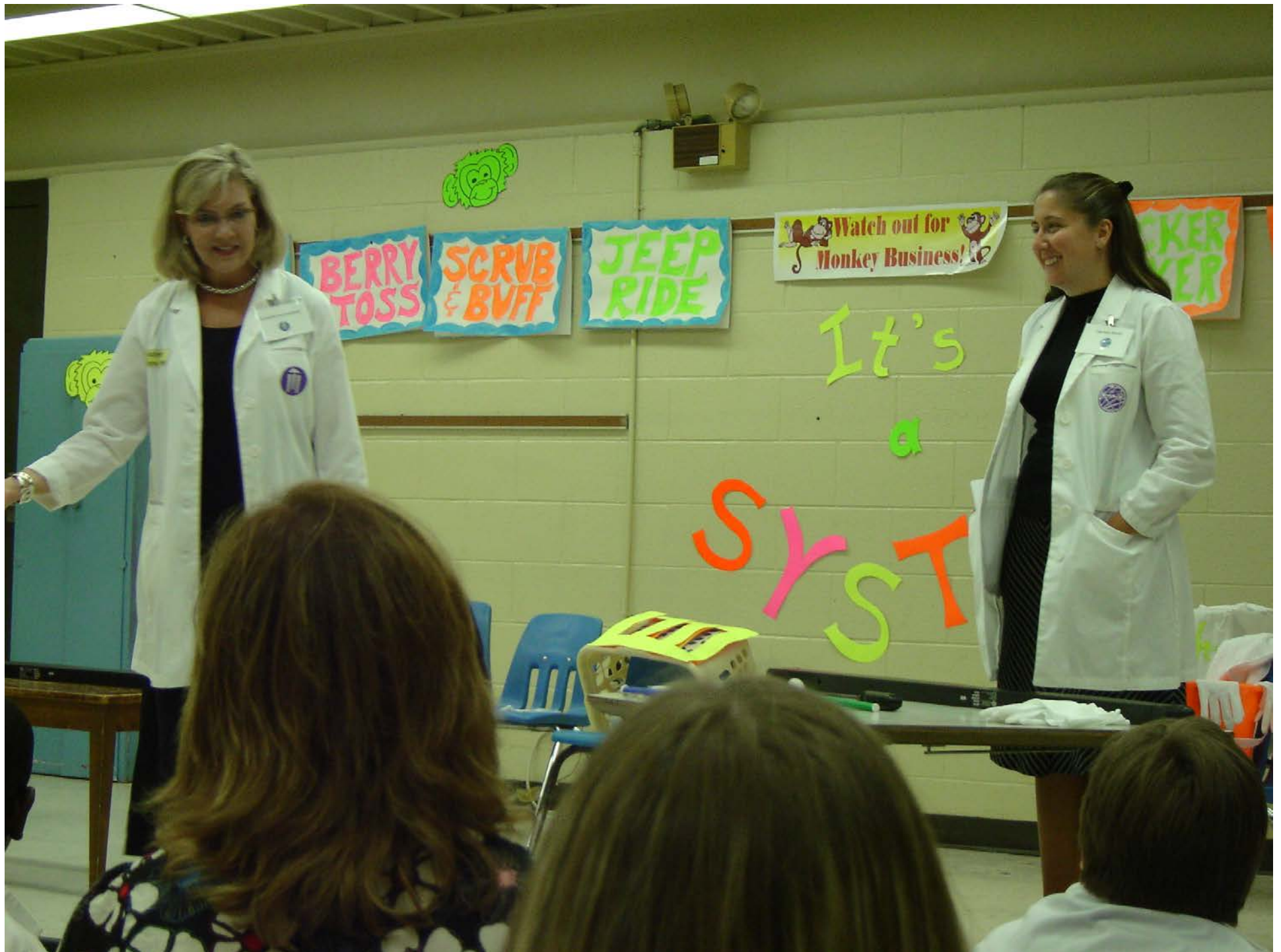
**You know your child is gifted
when . . .**

**you discover that your 9-year-
old is putting all his homework
in a computer folder titled
"Stuff the world could do
without."**

-- Allison



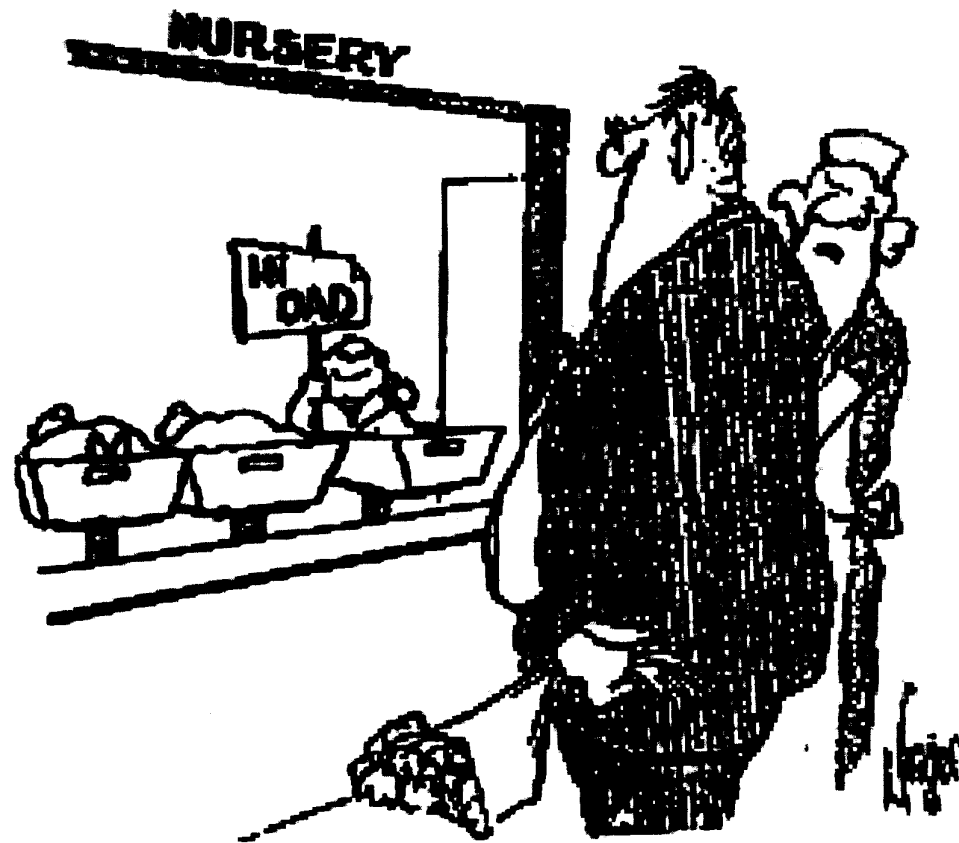












"Congratulations!! He seems very bright."

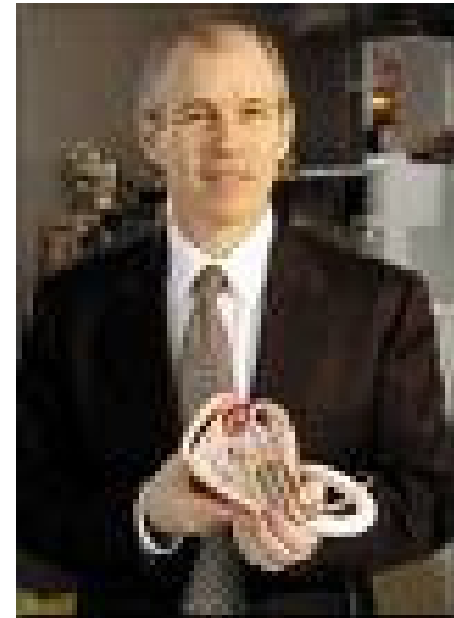


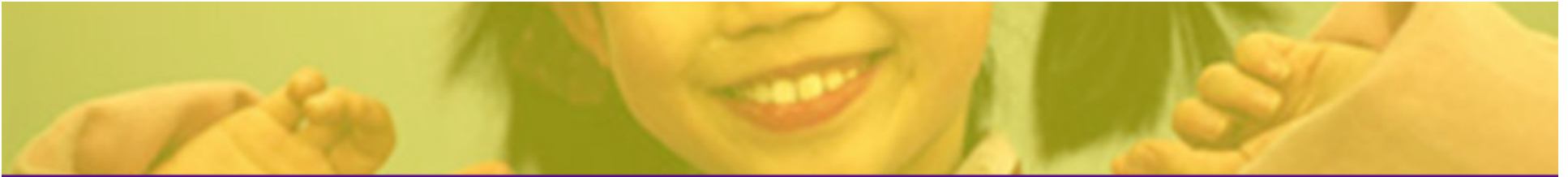
Received constant
reports of “poor
achievement” and
was a lousy speller

Robert Jarvik -

Invented the artificial
heart

Was rejected by 15
American medical
schools

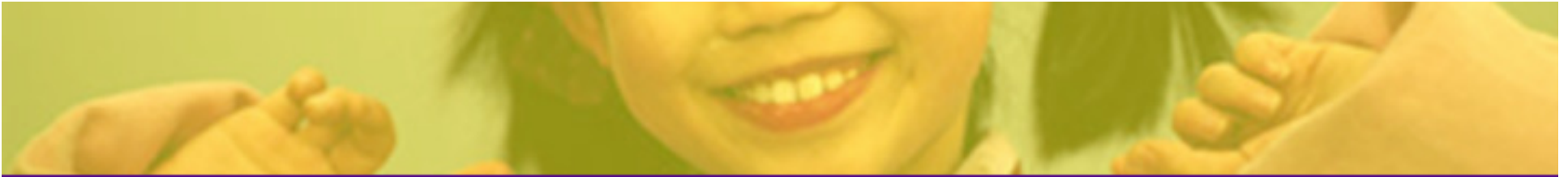




From Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary

gifted 1: having great natural ability:
TALENTED (~children)

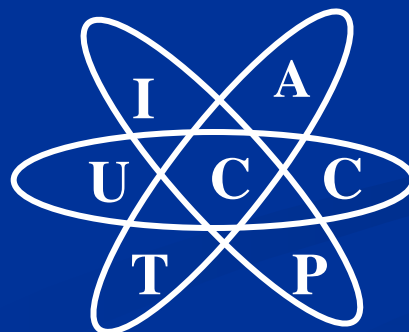
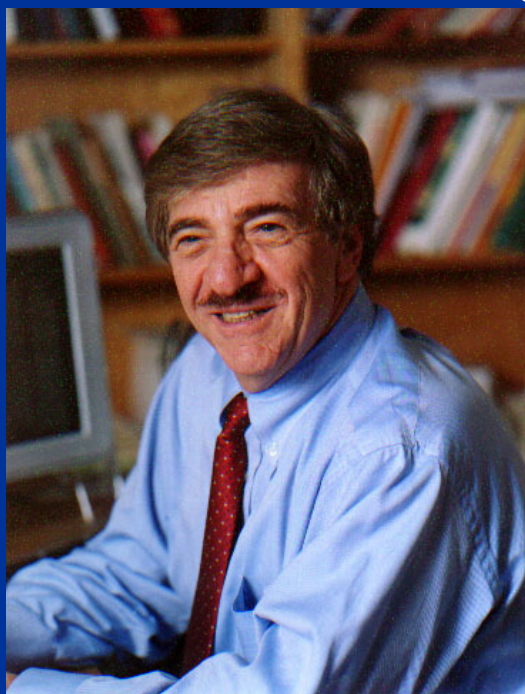
2: revealing a special gift (~voices).



U.S. Department of Education

“ ‘Gifted and talented children’ means children and, whenever applicable, youth, who are identified at the preschool, elementary, or secondary level as possessing demonstrated or potential abilities that give evidence of high performance capability in areas such as intellectual, creative, specific academic, or leadership ability, or in the performing and visual arts, and who by reason thereof require services or activities not ordinarily provided by the school.”

WHAT MAKES GIFTEDNESS?



From: Renzulli, J. S. (1978).
What Makes Giftedness?
Reexamining a Definition. *Phi
Delta Kappan*, 180-184, 261.

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Bright Child

Knows the answers
Is Interested
Is Attentive
Has good ideas
Works hard
Answers the questions
Listens with interest
Learns with ease
6-8 repetitions for mastery
Understands ideas
Enjoys peers
Grasps the meaning
Completes assignments
Is receptive
Copies accurately
Absorbs information
Technician
Enjoys straight forward presentation
Is alert
Is pleased with own learning

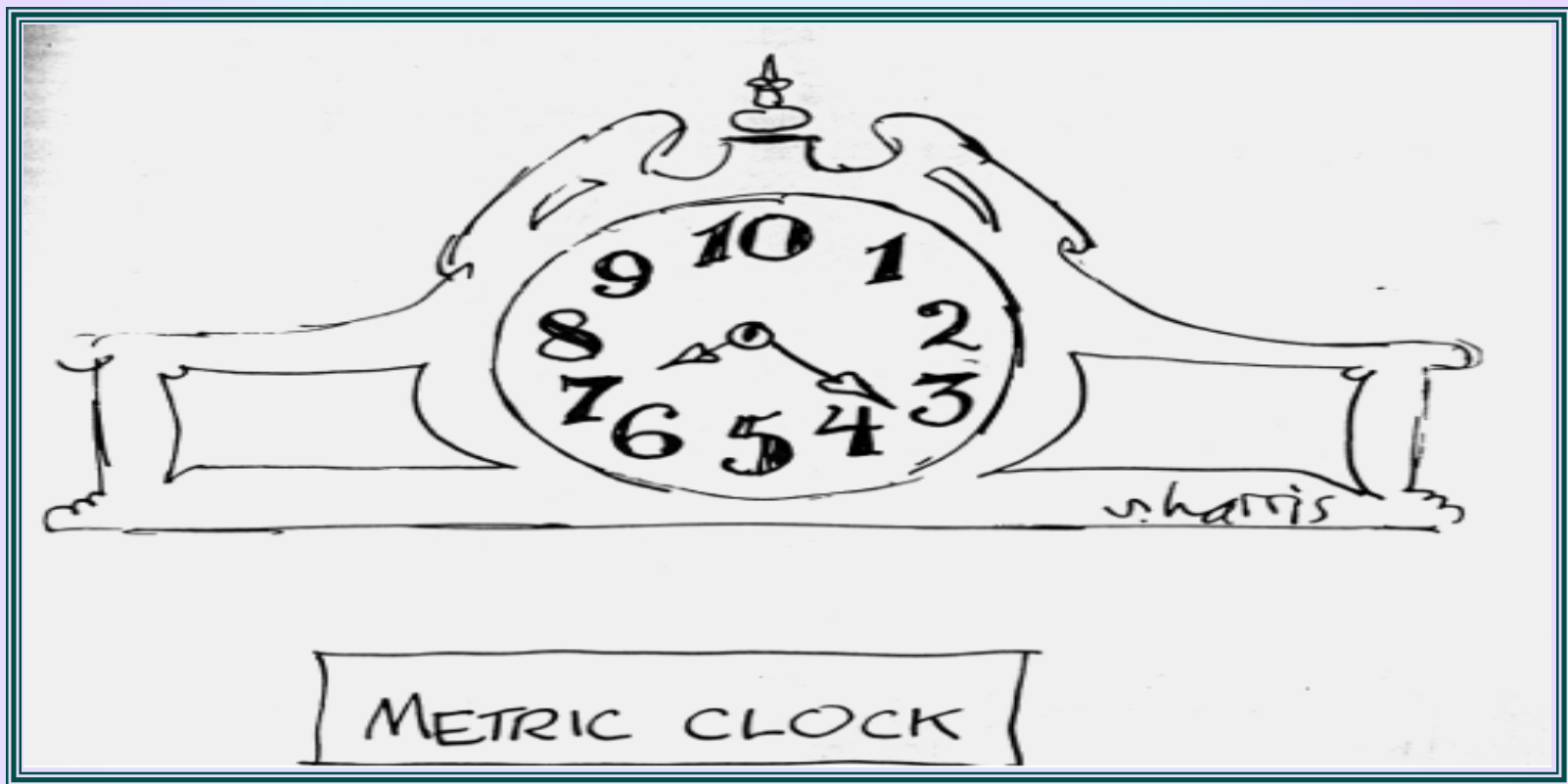
Gifted Learner

Asks the questions
Is highly curious
Mentally & physically involved
Has wild, silly ideas
Plays around, yet tests well
Discusses in detail, elaborates
Shows strong feelings & opinions
Already knows
1-2 repetitions for mastery
Constructs abstractions
Prefers adults
Draws inferences
Initiates projects
Is intense
Creates a new design
Manipulates information
Inventor
Thrives on complexity
Is keenly observant
Is highly self-critical

from Challenge Magazine by Janet Szabos

Knows the answers

Asks the questions



Is

Interested

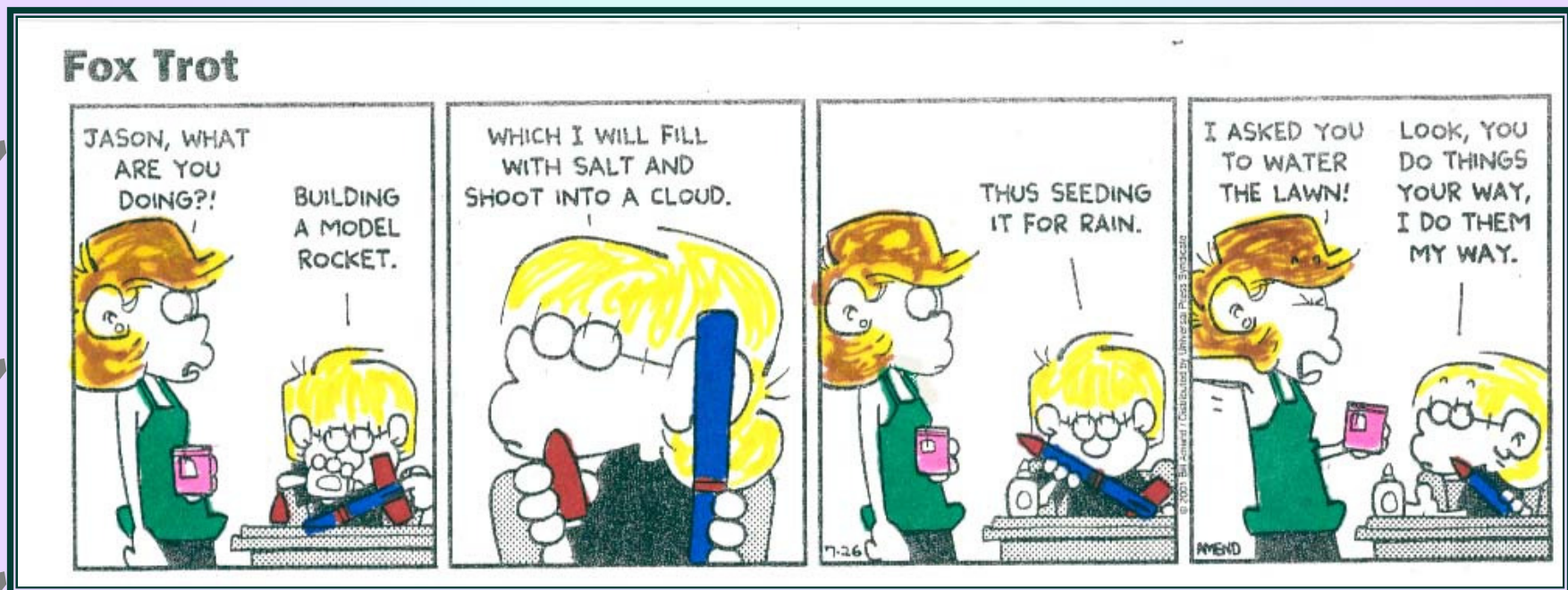
**Is Highly
Curious**



**None of my toys work because I took them
all apart to see what makes them work.**

Has good ideas

Has wild, silly ideas



Learns with ease

Already knows





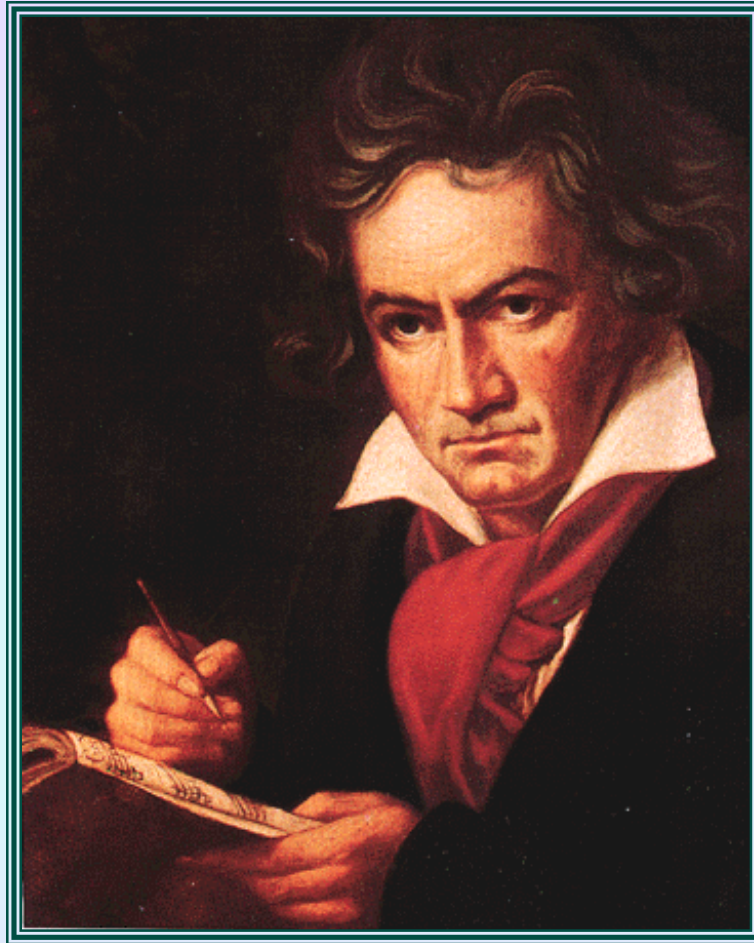
6-8 Repetitions for mastery

1-2 Repetitions

Understands ideas

Constructs abstractions

Is receptive



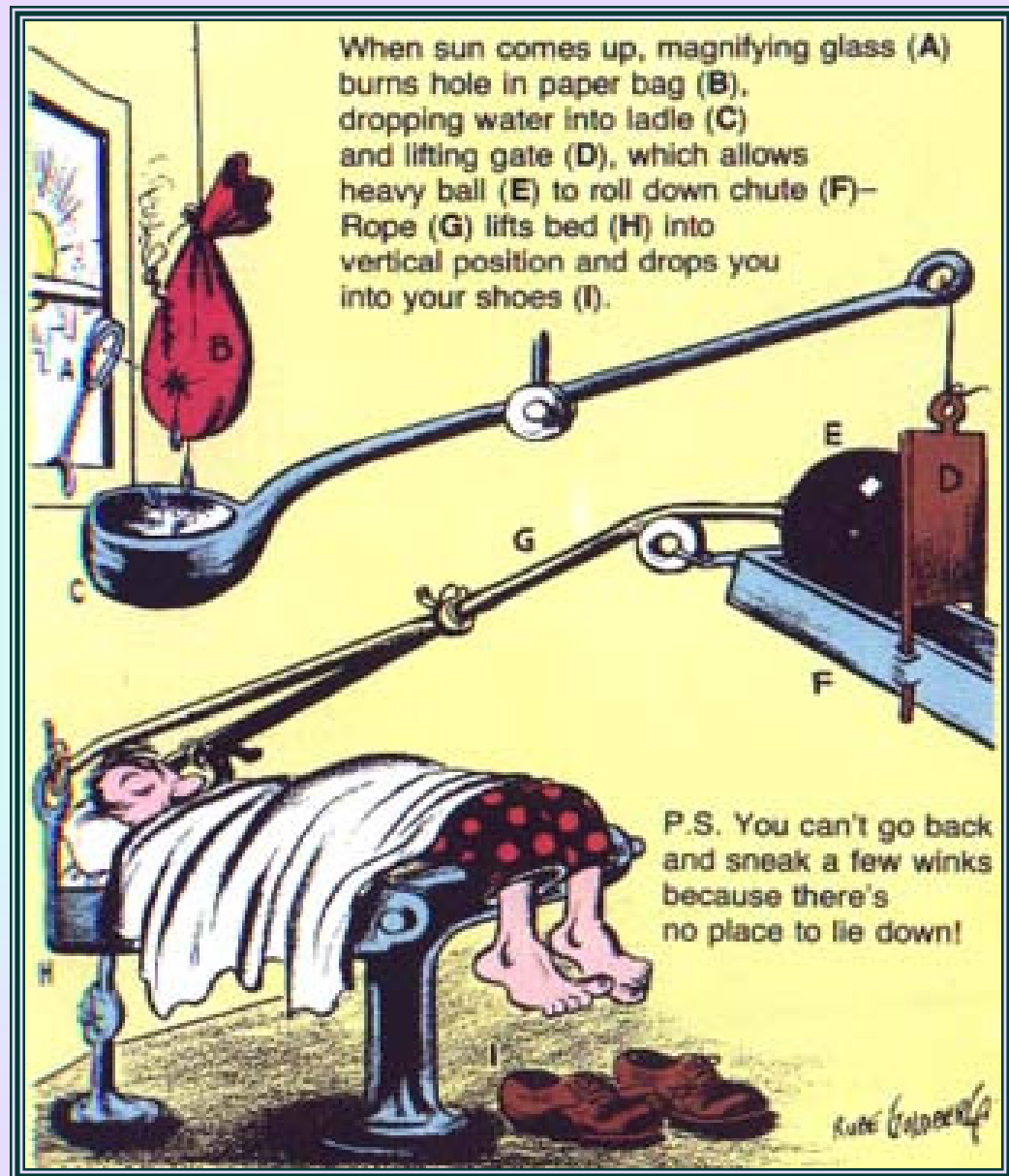
Is intense

Copies accurately

Creates a new design

Technician

Inventor



Enjoys straight forward presentation

Thrives on complexity



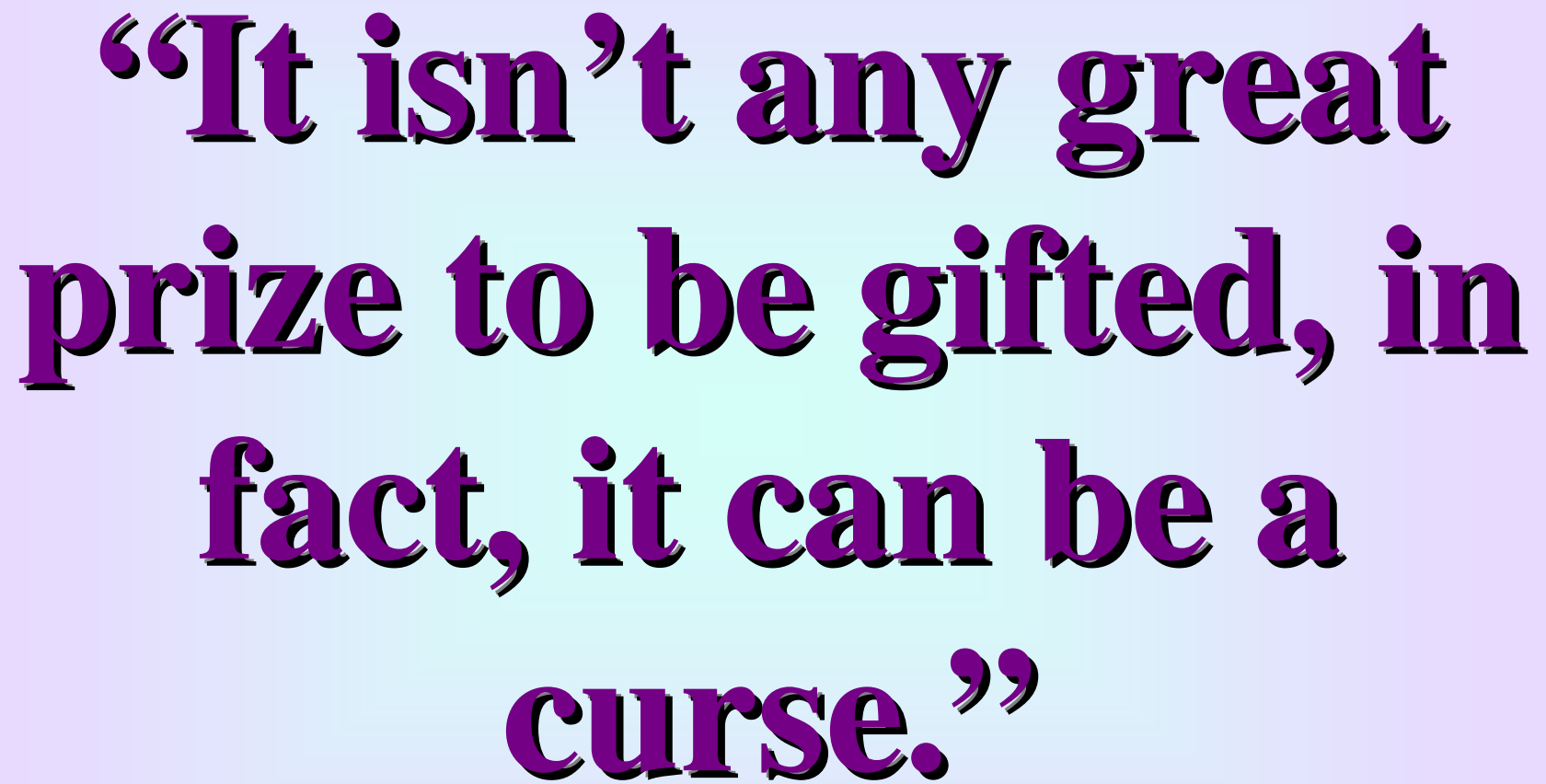


Is alert

Is keenly observant

Is pleased with own learning

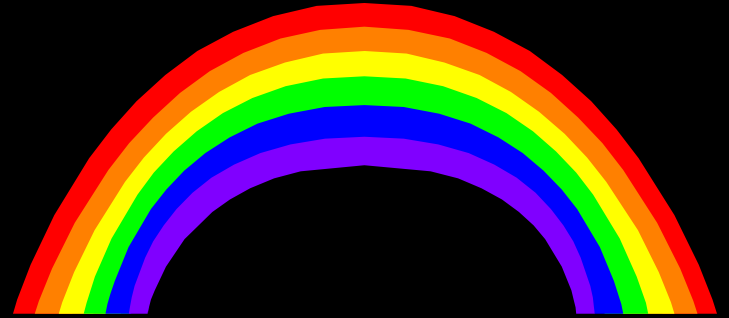
Is highly self-critical



**“It isn’t any great
prize to be gifted, in
fact, it can be a
curse.”**

Arthur R. Collins

Social and Emotional Characteristics of Gifted Children Which May Pose Challenges



- **perceptiveness**
- **high involvement and preoccupation; need to understand**
- **heightened sensitivity**
- **perfectionism**
- **uneven integration of intellectual abilities**
- **emotional intensity**



- **feelings and early awareness of being different**
- **asynchronous development of physical, intellectual, social, emotional aspects**
- **anxiety caused by advanced knowledge**
- **early adolescence (some children, especially highly gifted, may skip the latency stage of development)**
- **need for mental stimulation**
- **excitability and overexcitability**
- **need for precision**
- **tendency toward introversion**

Asynchronous Development

A four year old gifted student may have the intellectual interests of an 8 year old, but will not have the physical / social development of an older kid. The four year old may feel out of it with age mates and not quite fit in with the older children either.



Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



Stress

Too much stress can cause physical symptoms such as headaches, stomachaches and even depression.

Combat stress with:

- Deep-breathing, exercise
- “Space” for daydreaming
- One-at-a-time Thinking

Ask yourself --

Do you . . .

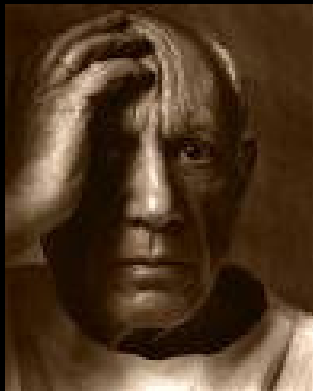
- set unreasonable goals for yourself?
- have difficulty enjoying the present moment because you are preoccupied with overcoming the next “hurdle”?
- have difficulty in relationships because you expect too much of yourself and others?
 - judge others critically?

Ask yourself --

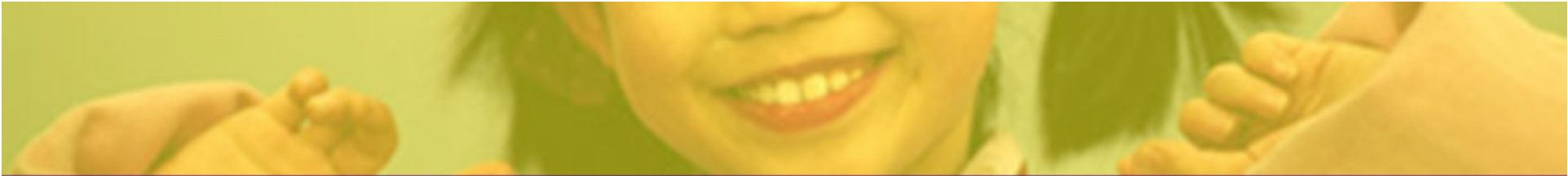
Do you . . .

- constantly compare yourself with others?
- fear making mistakes?
- procrastinate because you need to do something perfectly?

I am always doing
that which I can not
do, in order that I
may learn how to do
it.



– Pablo Picasso (1881 - 1973)

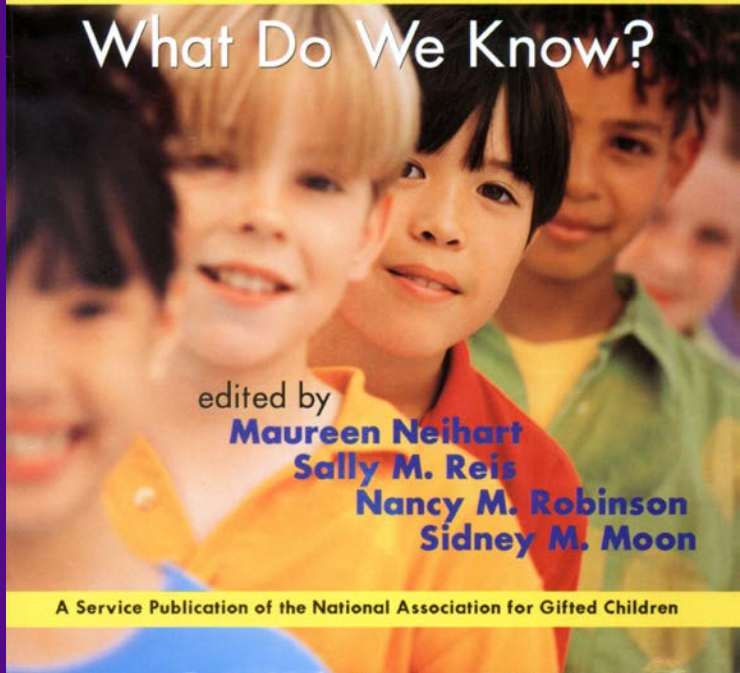


Social and Emotional Findings

**www.prufrock
.com**

the SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT of GIFTED CHILDREN

What Do We Know?



edited by
**Maureen Neihart
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A Service Publication of the National Association for Gifted Children

The National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented



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Research-Based Resources

Our monographs brochures videotapes and on-line resources are available for researchers, teachers, parents, administrators, and others interested in gifted students and their education.

Note: Though authors had a specific audience in mind, readership and interest are not limited to that audience.

Readership/Interest Codes:

AD = Administrators
CO = Counselors
CU = College or University Teachers/Students
ED = Educators
PA = Parents
RE = Researchers
SE = Special Education Staff

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(Fall 2002)

Visit our website for publication abstracts and a current listing of all our products.
www.gifted.uconn.edu

Brochures available in English & Spanish

- ✓ "What Parents Need to Know About Recognizing and Encouraging Interests, Strengths, and Talents of Young Gifted Children."
- ✓ "What Parents Need to Know About Recognizing and Encouraging Interests, Strengths, and Talents of Gifted Elementary School Children."
- ✓ "What Parents Need to Know About Recognizing and Encouraging Interests, Strengths, and Talents of Gifted Adolescents."

www.nagc.org

Consider joining NAGC for the great resources for parents, conferences, etc.



GIFTED YOU SAY?

THIS BLOG WAS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF GIFTED YOUTH. FEEL FREE TO SHARE COMMENTS AND STORIES, FIND RESOURCES, NETWORK, ETC.

MONDAY, JULY 9, 2007

Problems with Perfect

Perfectionism can be a serious threat to the gifted. While there is room for a healthy dose of perfectionism, when it runs rampant, gifted children can suffer emotionally. For that matter, adults can too! Take the following quiz - are you a perfectionist?

Do you ...

- set unreasonable goals for yourself?
- have difficulty enjoying the present moment because you are preoccupied with life's next hurdle?
- have difficulty in relationships because you expect too much of yourself or others?
- plan compulsively?
- procrastinate because of a need to do something "perfectly"?
- become dissatisfied with situations that are not "ideal"?
- worry excessively about making mistakes?

Quiz adapted from Galbraith and Delisle, 1996



BLOG ARCHIVE

▼ 2007 (2)

▼ July (2)

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***Thank You
for Coming***