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ABSTRACT

Provided is a questionnaire in the form of a rating scale to determine the degree to which teachers believe 316 characteristics (called behavioral descriptors) are typical of gifted children. Given is a definition of giftedness which includes capability of high performance in areas such as general intellectual ability and creative thinking, and need for differentiated educational programs beyond normal provisions of the regular school program. Instructions are given for rating behavior according to seven levels ranging from very uncharacteristic to very characteristic. The following are typical examples of the descriptors provided: "the child uses logic in arriving at a decision, the student displays unusual ability to select and arrange colors, and the student quickly analyzes mechanical problems". (MC)

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**BEHAVIORAL DESCRIPTORS OF THE GIFTED**

**Office of Research & Field Services  
University of Pittsburgh  
School of Education  
2901 Cathedral of Learning  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15260**

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INFORMATION SHEET

Please complete the following questions, keeping in mind that any information provided will be held in the strictest confidence.

Identification Number (provided in the upper right hand corner of the scale).

I.D.# \_\_\_\_\_

Sex M or F (circle one)

Race White Black other (circle one) If other specify \_\_\_\_\_

Years of teaching experience (nearest year) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level (s) currently envolved with \_\_\_\_\_

Age (nearest year) \_\_\_\_\_

Highest degree obtained \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have children of your own? yes or no

If yes, list the age and sex of each: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### DEFINITION OF GIFTEDNESS

In evaluating these behavioral descriptors as to the degree to which each characterizes behavior or abilities of a gifted child; the following definition of giftedness will be utilized.

Gifted children are those who by <sup>virtue</sup> of outstanding abilities, are capable of high performance. These are children who require differentiated educational programs and/or services beyond those normally provided by the regular school program in order to realize their contribution to self and society.

Children capable of high performance include those with demonstrated achievement and/or potential ability in any of the following areas, singly or in combination:

1. General intellectual ability
2. Specific academic aptitude
3. Creative or productive thinking
4. Leadership ability
5. Visual and performing arts











































Office of Research and Field Services  
School of Education  
2901 G. L. University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

A: References: Gifted

1. Earhe, Walter B. (Ed).  
Psychology & Education of the Gifted: Selected Readings.  
Appleton - Century - Crofts, 1965.
2. French Joesph L (Ed).  
Education of the Gifted.  
Holt, Rinehaot & Winston, 1960. (Revised, 1964).
3. Gallagher, James J. (Ed).  
Teaching Gifted Students: A Book of Readings.  
Allyn & Bacon, 1967.
4. Smith James.  
Creative Teachings of Readings & Literature  
in the Elementary School.  
Allyn & Bacon, 1967.
5. Torrance, Paul  
Rewarding Creative Behavior.  
Prentice - Hall, 1965
6. Wetty Paul  
Education for the Gifted, 1958.
7. Wetty Paul  
The Teachings of Reading 1966 D C Health
8. Wetty Paul  
Helping the Gifted Child  
Chigago: Science Research Associates, 1952.  
Revised, 1970

B. Other Sources:

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encyclopedia of Educational Research  
Psychological Abstracts  
Review of Educational Research

Some References:

1. Anderson, K. E. (Ed). REsearch on the Academically Talented Student. Washington, D. C. NEA, 1961.
2. Freehill, M. F. Gifted Children N. Y: Macmillan, 1961.
3. Gibbony, Hazel M. Enrichment : Classroom Challenge. Columbus, Ohio Ohio Dept of Education, 1962
4. Henry, N. B. (Ed) Education for the gifted. Yearbook of N.S.S.E., 1958, 37, part 2
5. Lewis, Gertrude M. Educating the More Able Children in Grades Four, Five, and Six. Washington, D. C. U. S. office of Education Bulletin. No-1, 1961.
7. Miller L. M. Guidance for the Underachiever. With Superior Ability. Washington, D. C. U. S. Office of Education Bulletin, No 25, 1961.
8. Ohio Department of Education Superintendent of Public Instruction. A Selected and Annotated Bibliography on the Gifted. Columbus, Ohio. Ohio Dept. of Educ, 1960.
9. Southern Regional Education Board- The Gifted Student: A Manual For Program Improvement. Atlanta, Ga: South Reg. Educ. Bd, 1962

10. Taylor, C. W. & Barron, F. (Eds) Scientific creativity- its Recognition and Development. N. Y. = Wiley 1965

C. Organizations:

1. The American Association for Gifted Children  
15 Gramercy Park  
N.y.  
Purpose: to promote interests of gifted children  
sponsors : writing of books & distributing reprints of articles by members  
(publication list available)
2. Association for the Gifted  
Division/ Council for Exceptional Children, 1201 16th st, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.  
membership = predominantly professional individuals  
purpose : sensitization of Society to needs of gifted  
stimulation of research  
facilitation of information exchange  
newsletter three times a year
3. The Joe Berg Foundation  
1713 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago 16, Illinois  
purpose: promote seminars for the gifted at elem. high school levels,  
using professionals from the community as teachers to  
develop materials for seminars, and to offer assistance in  
establishing seminars at no charge to the community.
4. Educational Testing Service, Nassau Street, Princeton, New Jersey  
Creativity Research Exchange: as a clearinghouse.  
Researchers send outlines of major phases of studies as  
completed and ETS reproduces and distributes them to  
professionals within a few weeks.

5. The inter- University Committee on the superior Student  
 229 McMenna, Univ of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado  
 no formal membership; mailing list of 9,000  
 purpose, encourage development of special programs for  
 the superior student in American higher education  
 (part in 4 yr. public institutions)  
 Serves clearinghouse- info. on special programs  
 holds nat & reg. conf.  
 personal visits by staff to assist schools : estab.or  
 revise special programs  
 publishes "Superior Student," monthly newsletter
6. The National Association for Gifted Children, 409 Clinton Avenue,  
 Cincinnati 17, Ohio  
 chiefly prof. member.  
 purpose: maximize potentialities by providing better understanding  
 of gifted's prob.+ needs; and how these may be met.  
 sponsors: annual + state meetings  
 publishes: "Gifted Child Quarterly"
7. The National Education Association Project on the Academically  
 Talented Student  
 1201 16th st N. W. Wash. 6, D. C.  
 sponsors: conf.  
 produces mixpen. paperback pub. on the gifted  
 (pub. lists available)
8. Superior and Talented Student Project  
 5454 South Shore Drive Chicago 15, Ill. Room 718  
 vol. assoc- second schl.- programs: youth- above average abilities  
 by apple thru following regional accrediting agencies  
 New England Assoc. of Colleges + Second Schls  
 North Central Assoc  
 Northwest Assoc of Secondary + Higher Schools  
 Southern Assoc of Colleges + Second Schls  
 Western Colleges Assoc.
- Calif ASSOC of Secondary school administrators  
 purpose involve secondary schools in coop-action  
 programs - identify, guide, motivate, provide  
 for capable youth  
 Some consultative services are available to groups of schools.  
 A list of publications is sent on request.

9. Talented youth Project

Horace Mann- Lincoln Institute

Teachers college, Columbia University,

N. y. 27, n.yn.

a research project - services- school system + individ.

as as outgrowth of research activities.

Publication lists and a selected bibliography are available

10. The Gifted Child Society, Inc

75 Andover Avenue

Dumont, N. J.

membership: primarily parents, some professionals

purpose offer activities (lectures field trips, workshops)

for gifted students & members of org.

monthly newsletter is pub.