

Am I A Gifted Parent?

As a parent, are you taking an active role in encouraging growth in your child? Do your words and actions create an atmosphere that will help your child reach his or her full potential?

This list of questions may give you some ideas or things to think about.....

1. Do I answer my child's questions with patience and good humor?
2. Do I take advantage of questions and expressions of interest to guide my child into further learning and exploration?
3. Do I help develop physical and social skills as carefully as I encourage mental growth?
4. Do I help him/her learn to get along with children of all levels of intelligence?
5. Do I avoid comparing my child with her/his siblings or companions?
6. Do I show love for his/her own sake, not for intellectual achievement?
7. Do I set reasonable standards of behavior for my child? Do I maintain those standards consistently?
8. Do I provide opportunities for decision-making by my child? Do I help my child see the results of those decisions?
9. Do I help my child find worthwhile reading materials and TV/computer programs?
10. Do I provide a place to display my child's work?

11. Do I encourage my child to express opinions about daily events or situations in our world?
12. Do I take my child on trips to points of interest?
13. Do I teach how to budget time, organize work, and improve study skills?
14. Do I give increasing independence as his/her ability to handle responsibility increases?
15. Do I resist the impulse to “show off” my child?
16. Do I teach my child to use his/her gifts for the benefits of society as well as for self?
17. Do I help my child believe that mistakes are okay? Do I avoid saying “But you are so smart - you shouldn’t make those mistakes!”?
18. Do I avoid overwhelming my child with after-school lessons and activities?
19. Do I expect my child to help with household responsibilities as a way of teaching participation in the group?
20. Do my own words and behaviors set the example I want for my high ability child?

Adapted from A Guide for Parents.....Mentally Gifted Children and Youth
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