Common Characteristics of Gifted & Talented Individuals

- Rapid learner
- Excellent memory
- Unusually large vocabulary and complex sentence structure for age
- Enjoys solving problems
- Highly sensitive
- Thinking is abstract, complex, logical, and insightful
- Idealism and sense of justice at early age
- Preoccupied with own thoughts
- Asks probing questions
- Wide range of interests (or extreme focus in one area)
- Highly developed curiosity
- Keen and/or unusual sense of humor
- Desire to organize people/things through games or complex schemas
- Impatience with repetitive tasks

https://www.nagc.org/resources-publications/resources/my-child-gifted/common-characteristics-gifted-individuals

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**MNPS Gifted and Talented Programs**

MNPS values the intellectual, creative, emotional, & social needs of a diverse population of academically gifted talented students through the engagement of a rigorous interdisciplinary curriculum.

The MNPS Encore Program offers instructional experiences designed specifically for intellectually gifted and academically talented learners.

The curriculum is engaging, interactive, and problem-based with a focus on developing students’ critical and creative thinking abilities. Instruction is interdisciplinary and aligned with Tennessee content standards. Encore classes are designed to supplement the curriculum being taught in the general education classroom.

**Facts**

- Gifted & Talented classes are available at every MNPS elementary & middle school.

- Advanced Academics Resource Teachers (AARTs) are specialized in gifted & talented education. They teach Encore and Young Scholars of Nashville (YSN) classes.

- Gifted & talented students study interdisciplinary units that are inquiry-based, promote critical and creative thinking, as well as problem solving with depth and complexity.

- Pre-K Encore and/or Talent Development classes are available at Davis, Casa Azafra, Ross, and Cambridge Early Learning Centers and Robertson Academy.

- Students must be identified as intellectually gifted or academically talented in order to qualify for Encore.

**Identification for Encore services:**

- Pre-K students who are 4-years-old: Email Encore-questions@mnps.org to obtain more information.

- Students in grades K-2 are referred for screening in the Spring of each school year. They are screened using the Nagileri Nonverbal Ability Test® (NNAT3).

- Students in grades 3-7 are referred for screening in the Fall of each school year. They are screened using the Cognitive Abilities Test™ (CogAT®).

**Young Scholars of Nashville**

Young Scholars of Nashville (YSN) is a talent development program. The goal of YSN is to identify and nurture advanced academic potential in K-8 students, especially students from traditionally underrepresented populations. Students are identified through a talent pool process using local norms, achievement, and observations.