

Use the following definitions and descriptions of basic traits, aptitudes, and behaviors (TABs) associated with gifted potential to help you observe children.

<p><u>Motivation</u> <i>Evidence of desire to learn</i> Description: Forces that initiate, direct and sustain individual or group behavior in order to satisfy a need or attain a goal Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate persistence in pursuing/completing self-selected tasks (may be culturally influenced; evident in school or non-school activities) ✓ Be an enthusiastic learner ✓ Aspire to be somebody 	<p><u>Interests</u> <i>Intense(sometimes unusual) interest</i> Description: Activities, avocations, objects, etc., that have special worth or significance and are given special attention Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate unusual or advanced interests in a topic or activity ✓ Be beyond age group ✓ Pursue an activity unceasingly 	<p><u>Communication Skills</u> <i>Highly expressive and effective use of words, numbers, symbols</i> Description: Transmission and reception of signals or meanings through a system of symbols (codes, gestures, language, numbers) Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate unusual ability to communicate (verbally, physically, artistically) ✓ Use particularly apt examples, illustrations, or elaborations 	<p><u>Problem-Solving/ Reasoning Ability</u> <i>Effective, often inventive strategies for recognizing and solving problems</i> Description: Process of determining a correct sequence of alternatives leading to a desired goal or to successful completion of a task Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate unusual ability to devise or adapt a systematic strategy for solving problems and to change the strategy if it is not working ✓ Create new designs, invent 	<p><u>Memory</u> <i>Large storehouse of information on school or non-school topics</i> Description: Exceptional ability to retain and retrieve information. Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Already know ✓ Need only 1-2 repetitions for mastery ✓ Have a wealth of information about school or non-school topics ✓ Pay attention to details ✓ Manipulate information well
<p><u>Inquiry</u> <i>Questions, experiments, explores</i> Description: Method or process of seeking knowledge, understanding, or information Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ask unusual questions for age ✓ Play around with ideas ✓ Demonstrate extensive exploratory behaviors directed toward eliciting information about materials or situations 	<p><u>Insight</u> <i>Quickly grasps new concepts and makes connections; senses deeper meanings</i> Description: sudden discovery of the correct solution following incorrect attempts Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Demonstrate exceptional ability to draw inferences ✓ Appear to be a good guesser ✓ Be keenly observant ✓ See many unusual, diverse relationships ✓ Integrate ideas and disciplines 	<p><u>Reasoning</u> <i>Logical approaches to figuring out solutions</i> Description: Highly conscious, directed, controlled, active, intentional, forward-looking, goal oriented thought Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Make generalizations ✓ Use metaphors and analogies ✓ Think things through in a logical manner ✓ Think critically ✓ Come up with plausible answers 	<p><u>Imagination/Creativity</u> <i>Produces many ideas; highly original</i> Description: Process of forming mental images of objects, qualities or situations which aren't immediately apparent to the senses. Problem solving through non-traditional patterns of thinking Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Show exceptional ingenuity in using everyday materials ✓ Have wild, seemingly silly ideas 	<p><u>Humor</u> <i>Conveys and picks up on humor</i> Description: Ability to synthesize key ideas or problems in complex situations in a humorous way; exceptional sense of timing in words and gestures Student may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Have keen sense of humor (may be gentle or hostile) ✓ See unusual relationships ✓ demonstrate unusual emotional depth ✓ demonstrate sensory awareness

