

Early Signs of Giftedness

Note: Gifted children typically do not display all of the signs below, but rather several signs in different areas or extremely strong abilities in a few areas.

Characteristics among infants-24 months

- Unusual alertness, even in infancy
- Reaches developmental milestones well ahead of peers.
- Extremely alert or always looking around
- Needs less sleep than most other babies
- Needs almost constant stimulation when awake
- May begin to mimic sounds earlier than other babies
- Tend to be exceptionally sensitive to sounds, smells, textures, tastes; may display crankiness or crying when in the presence of those they dislike
- High need for mental stimulation and/or gets bored easily and can be considered quite cranky, fussy or agitated when not engaged
- Unusually large vocabulary and complex sentence structure for age i.e. ability to speak in sentences much earlier than children of the same age

Characteristics 24 months and up

- Rapid learner; puts thoughts together quickly
- Excellent memory
- Continues to reach developmental milestones well ahead of peers
- High need for mental stimulation
- Unusually large vocabulary and complex sentence structure for age
- Advanced comprehension of word nuances, metaphors and abstract ideas
- Enjoys solving problems, especially with numbers and puzzles
- Often self-taught reading and writing skills as preschooler
- Deep, intense feelings and reactions
- Thinking is abstract, complex, logical, and insightful
- Idealism and sense of justice at early age
- Longer attention span and intense concentration
- Preoccupied with own thoughts—daydreamer
- Learn basic skills quickly and with little practice
- Asks probing questions
- Wide range of interests (or extreme focus in one area)
- Highly developed curiosity
- Interest in experimenting and doing things differently
- Puts idea or things together that are not typical
- Keen and/or unusual sense of humor
- Desire to organize people/things through games or complex schemas
- Vivid imaginations (and imaginary playmates when in preschool)
- Has a specific talent, such as artistic ability or an unusual ease with numbers
- Ability to memorize facts/recall obscure information learned from TV shows, movies, or books easily

Sources listed on backside

Notes:

Sources:

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Article By [Carol Bainbridge](#), How to Tell If You Have a Gifted Baby; <https://www.verywellfamily.com/signs-of-giftedness-in-infants-1449376>