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Young Bright Children

Anyone watching a group of children playing will see many differences among them. Many of the questions NAGC receives from parents are about children ages 8 and under who are performing at more advanced levels than their peers. After the initial excitement of watching a child learn, parents notice the disparities in children and begin to have questions – Is my child advanced?, How do I make sure there is a continued interest in learning?, and What happens when my child enters school?

There are a few stumbling blocks for parents and educators of gifted young children

- Young gifted learners are a heterogeneous group where each child develops skills and abilities at different rates; so while one 4 year old may be able to add and subtract numbers, he may struggle to draw a recognizable house or take turns on the swing.
- Teachers and schools are not trained to recognize advanced ability or be able to differentiate to serve this population of young children.
- There are few opportunities for outside enrichment during the early years, especially in low-income neighborhoods.



[How can parents and teachers nurture a child's interests and strengths?](#)

What can [preschool and kindergarten programs](#) do?

Read NAGC's [Early Childhood Position Paper](#)

[Early Childhood Gifted Education: Fostering Talent Development](#) -- Explores developmentally appropriate talent development in young children at home and in school. *An NAGC Select book.*