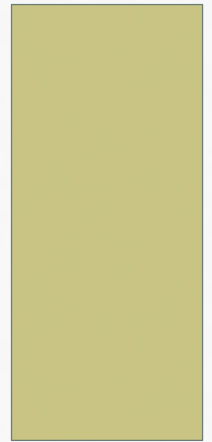


# UNDERSTANDING GIFTED

BY: NICHOLE WAALAND





# GIFTED EDUCATION:



## What It IS...

- Teacher as Coach
- Expresses Creativity
- Project Based Learning
- Research
- Enrichment in core subjects
- Social Studies

## What It Is NOT...

- Repetition
- Working through Curriculum with no differentiation
- The Gifted Learner is a student tutor (Gifted students want to learn too!)

# GIFTED IDENTIFICATION PROCESS IN PINELLAS COUNTY

- Step 1: Initiation of Checklist:
  - Teacher meets with parent
- Step 2: Nomination:
  - A child can be nominated by parent/guardian, teacher, school personnel, or self nomination.
- Step 3: Screening:
  - One of 2 tests will be administered by the Gifted Teacher.
    - KBIT: Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test
    - NNAT: Naglieri Nonverbal Abilities Test
- Step 4: Referral: For Further Testing
- Step 5: Evaluation:
  - Intelligence test (score of 130<sup>+</sup>), Gifted Char. Checklist, and a Documented need for special program
- Step 6: Eligibility Determination Meeting





# SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF:

## High Achievers...

- Knows the Answers
- Enjoys School
- Grasp Meaning
- Copy Accurately
- Have Good Ideas
- Absorb Information
- Achieve Mastery in 3-8 repetitions

## Gifted...

- Ask the Questions
- Enjoys Learning
- Draw inference
- Create New Designs
- Have unexpected ideas
- Manipulate Information
- Achieve Mastery in 1-2 repetitions



# SOMETIMES OVERLOOKED...

- Some characteristics of gifted students often keep them out of Gifted programs. This can be related to misidentification.
- Teachers often identify “teacher pleasers” and overlook gifted students with challenging behaviors.
- A “Teacher Pleaser” is a student who does all the nice and helpful things in class and enjoys structure. This student makes good grades and has high standardized test scores. These are often the talented children who do not qualify at the “snapshot” level of 130+ IQ score.

# “Teacher Pleaser or Gifted?”

Where is  
Plymouth Rock?

I am not Presently at  
Liberty to Divulge  
that Information, as it  
might Compromise  
our agents in the  
Field.

I understand my Tests  
are Popular reading in  
the Teachers' Lounge.







# SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF:

## Teacher Pleaser...

- Knowledgeable
- Completes all work
- Writes well
- One of the first to respond
- Asks “safe” questions
- Time is important
- Enjoys structure

## Potentially Gifted Student...

- Has much factual information
- May not show neatness and order in work
- Anticipates outcomes
- May disagree with teachers or textbook answers
- May respond in an elaborate manner
- May not want to stop working on a task
- Fear failure, so don't take risks



**OVER-Achievers**

**Are Typically**

**TEACHER-PLEASERS**

**(They turn in homework...)**

**...**

**Many Gifted Kids**

**Are NOT!**

**(Homework? What homework?)**



# COMMON PROBLEMS FACED BY THE GIFTED

- Boredom: gifted children spend 25-50% of their time waiting for others to catch up
- Underachievement: many gifted children are underachieving by 2 – 4 levels
- Judgment lags behind intellectual abilities
- Anger/Depression
- Health/Behavior Problems
- Power struggles
- Peer Issues
- Belongingness
- Misdiagnosis
- Problems sleeping
- Stress/Perfectionism

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**“I can suck pudding up my nose and blow it out the corner of my eye, but they *still* won’t put me in the gifted class at school!”**

# Perfectionism

“If it can’t be perfect I won’t do it at all, or I’ll intentionally do a poor job. I’d rather have a “zero” than a “B” or “C.”



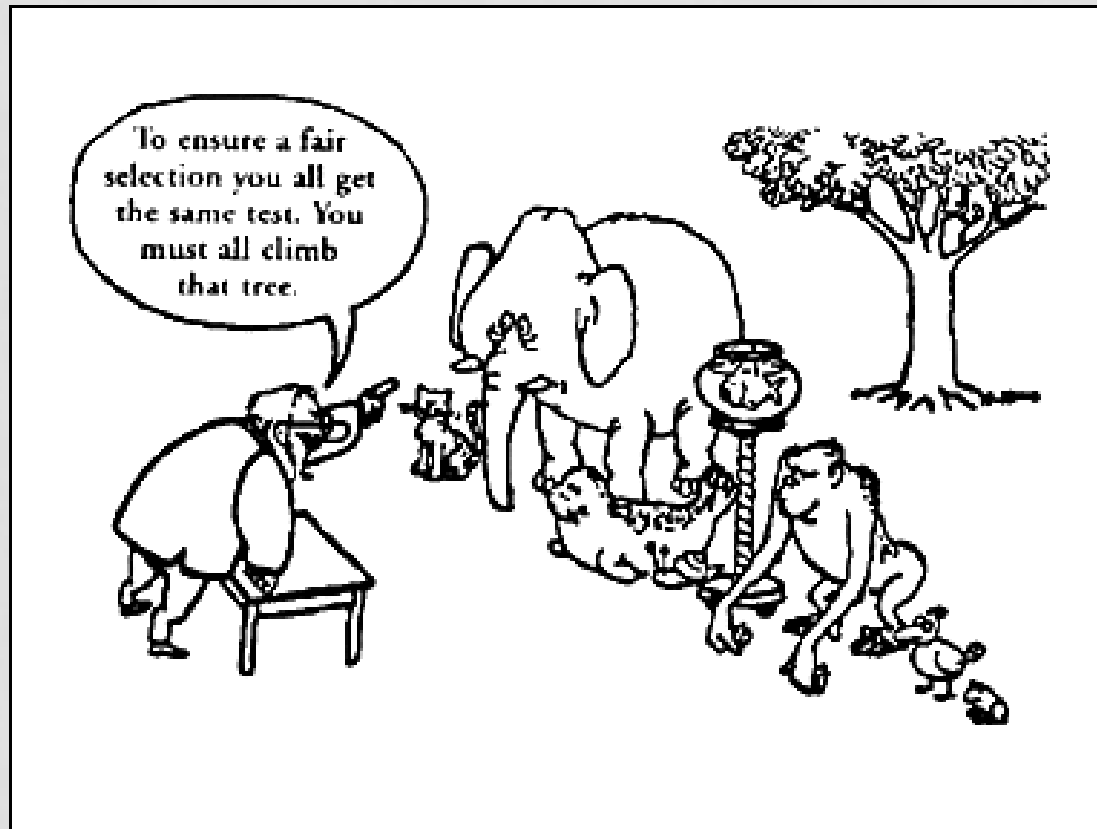


# COMMON MYTHS OF GIFTED EDUCATION

[HTTP://WWW.NAGC.ORG/COMMONMYTHS.ASPX#GIFTED\\_ELITIST](http://www.nagc.org/commonmyths.aspx#gifted_elitist)

- Gifted Students don't need help; They will do fine on their own.
- Teachers challenge all the students, so gifted kids will be fine in the regular classroom.
- Gifted students make everyone else in the class smarter by providing a role model or a challenge.
- All children are gifted.
- Acceleration placement options are socially harmful for gifted students.
- Gifted education classes are elitists.
- That student can't be gifted; he's receiving poor grades.
- Gifted kids are happy, popular and well adjusted in school.
- This child can't be gifted; he has a disability.
- Our district has a gifted and talented program; we have AP courses.
- Gifted education requires an abundance of resources.

# SO, WHY DIFFERENTIATE INSTRUCTION???



...because it is necessary!!!

# HOW WE TEACH MAKES A DIFFERENCE

“When a teacher tries to teach something to the entire class at the same time, chances are; one-third of the kids already know it, one-third will get it, and the remaining third won't. So two-thirds of the children are wasting their time.”

Lillian Katz







**The gifted child  
Is a CHILD first!**



# FOR MORE INFO... CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES!

- *Pinellas County School's Gifted Program*
  - [https://www.pcsb.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1776:gifted&catid=89](https://www.pcsb.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1776:gifted&catid=89)
- *Florida Department of Education*
  - [http://www.fldoe.org/bii/Gifted\\_Ed](http://www.fldoe.org/bii/Gifted_Ed)
- *Hoagies Gifted Education Page*
  - <http://hoagiesgifted.org/>

This website, with links for parents, teachers, and students, provides games, homework help, and links for additional resources for parents and educators. A unique thing about this website is that it is also a community. There are links to different mailing lists, message boards, and blogs, as well as information about gifted conferences. This is a very inclusive website.
- *ProProfs Brain Games*
  - <http://www.proprofs.com/games/all/>

has a number of enriching games that provide great recreation options for gifted and talented students. The range of games on this site include puzzles, logic games, suduko, word games, and brain teasers. The content here offers wonderful ways to help your student pass time, which makes it one of the best websites for gifted and talented education



# REFERENCES



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