



Membership in the GCA/BC is open to all people who are concerned about gifted children. Dues must accompany completed form in order to be processed for a family membership or subscription.

Please make cheques payable to "GCA/BC". Additional donations are welcome: tax receipts for contributions will be issued upon request.

Mail completed form to

Gifted Children's Association of B.C
Third Floor, 210 West Broadway,
Vancouver V5Y 3W2

Membership Year: Sept. 20__ - 20__
 ___\$35 annual family or individual membership (includes newsletter)
 ___\$10 institutional subscription (newsletter only) - INSTITUTIONS ONLY, PLEASE

Please Print or Type:

Name

Home Address

Postal Code _____

Home phone () _____

Email _____

Would you prefer your newsletter via
 _____mail
 _____email (Acrobat reader pdf format)

Goals of the GCABC

- ◆ To help parents and other concerned individuals meet the needs of gifted and talented children
- ◆ To develop supplemental educational programs which provide enrichment, challenge, and experiences for gifted or talented children.
- ◆ To develop awareness and support within the community concerning the needs of gifted and talented children.
- ◆ To foster parent support groups; to encourage the sharing of informational and educational materials; to promote parent growth, understanding, and skills in assisting the development of gifted and talented children.
- ◆ To promote appropriate programs within the educational system.
- ◆ To promote interchange and dialogue with persons and organisations working in the field of education of gifted and talented children.
- ◆ To keep up to date with research and literature in the field of education of gifted and talented children, including alternate models for teaching gifted and talented children, education in general, child rearing in general, and to offer resources in those areas to educational systems and institutions.

GCABC

3rd floor, 210 West Broadway
 Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 3W2

www.gcabc.ca

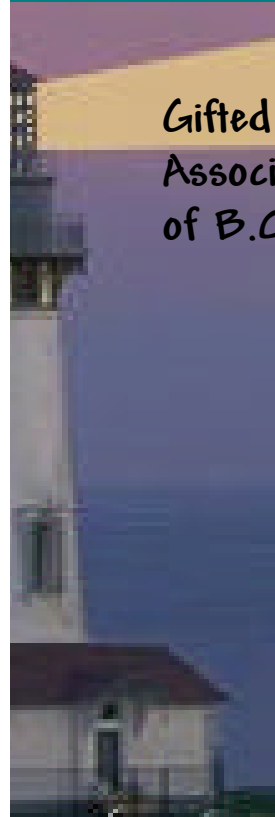
Phone toll free 1-877-707-6111 (in Victoria 598-1673)

Email: David_Shepherd@telus.net

Do you have Bright Children?

Do you need Help?

Gifted Children's
 Association
 of B.C.



A registered non profit volunteer organization which offers support and advocacy for Gifted Children and their families throughout B.C.

How can I tell if my Child is Gifted?

Parents are very accurate in recognizing their child's special abilities and differences.

Not always a school success

Gifted Children do not always do well in school. They often function across age ranges and may have few interests in common with age peers. Developmental differences and disabilities may mask their unique abilities.

Gifted children often demonstrate some of the following traits, which may also create corresponding problems for them.

- ◆ Acquires/retains information quickly. *Impatient with others, dislikes basic routine.*
- ◆ Inquisitive, searches for significance. *Asks embarrassing questions, excessive in interests.*
- ◆ Intrinsic motivation. *Strong willed, resists direction.*
- ◆ Seeks to organize things and people. *Constructs complicated rules, seen as bossy.*
- ◆ High expectations of self and others. *Intolerant, perfectionistic, may become depressed.*
- ◆ Intense concentration; long attention span, & persistence in areas of interest. *Neglects duties or people during periods of focus; resists interruption; stubbornness.*
- ◆ Understands complex concepts, perceives relationships, thinks abstractly. *Resists routine practice, questions teaching.*
- ◆ Creative/inventive; likes new methods. *May be seen as disruptive, out of step.*
- ◆ Diverse interests and abilities, versatile. *May appear disorganized or scattered, frustrated by time constraints.*
- ◆ Sensitivity empathy, desire for acceptance. *Sensitivity to criticism or peer rejection.*
- ◆ Keen sense of humor. *May become class clown for attention, language skills may cause age peers to misunderstand humor.*

Overexcitable Polish psychologist Kazimierz Dabrowski suggested the stimuli response of gifted individuals is stronger than normal in five areas. He called these overexcitabilities, (oe's,) as they involve psychological and central nervous system sensitivity. OE's describe the unusual intensity of the gifted, as well as the many ways in which they look and behave oddly when compared to norms. These are brief examples of the five:

Psychomotor oe need for physical expression, movement, energy, dance.

Sensual oe highly sensory, touch, texture, color, taste, light, sound. Can't tolerate clothes labels, twisted socks, moved to tears by Mozart.

Imaginational oe dreamers, space cadets, visual thinkers, metaphors.

Intellectual oe stimulated by intellectual challenge, problems.

Emotional oe broad range of emotional intensity, happier, sadder, more depressed, extreme empathy, compassion.

Gifted people have different intensities and combinations of oe's but Dabrowski believed emotional oe to be central to them all. These oes are often mistaken for lack of control. Gifted individuals may be perceived as immature, hypersensitive, uncooperative, hyperactive or socially maladapted. They may be overstimulated in social situations.

Giftedness is Asynchronous Development in which advanced cognitive abilities and heightened intensity combine to create inner experiences and awareness that are qualitatively different from the norm. This asynchrony increases with higher intellectual capacity. The uniqueness of the gifted renders them particularly vulnerable and requires modifications in parenting, teaching and counselling in order for them to develop optimally. The Columbus Group 1991

Some Benefits of Membership

By joining the GCA/BC, you can learn more about your child's needs and meet others with similar experiences

Your membership in the GCA/BC makes you a part of a growing movement focusing on the special abilities and needs of gifted children. When you join the association, you are entitled to attend any locally sponsored meetings anywhere in the province.

Your membership provides you with:

- ◆ A subscription to our newsletter- **Bright Connections.**
- ◆ Informative programs and workshops about gifted learners.
- ◆ Priority and reduced fees to our family conferences.
- ◆ Access to literature and bibliographies on gifted children and gifted learner education via our library available anywhere in the province.
- ◆ Support groups for parents and peer contact for children.
- ◆ Children's programs (where offered)
- ◆ A vote at our Annual General Meeting