

IDENTIFICATION OF HIGH-ABILITY STUDENTS

Characteristics of High-Ability Students that Tend to Eliminate Students from Identification

- ✓ Bored with routine tasks and refuse to do rote homework;
- ✓ Appears bored and withdrawn, yet capable when pressed; may be bashful;
- ✓ Reads a lot and may often choose reading in place of doing classwork;
- ✓ Resists being moved into another topic;
- ✓ Is critical of others; critical of the teachers;
- ✓ Disagrees vocally with others and with the teacher; questions reasons for decisions; questions authority and rules;
- ✓ Makes jokes or puns at inappropriate times;
- ✓ Emotionally sensitive and may over-react, get angry easily, or ready to cry if things go wrong;
- ✓ Not interested in details and hands in messy work; sometimes acts without planning; may be sloppy, unorganized; not bothered by mess and disorder;
- ✓ May not pay attention to time limits or deadlines;
- ✓ Non-conformist, thus may not be well liked by peers; may have odd habits; does not try to behave in a "proper" manner;
- ✓ Extensive knowledge in some out-of-school oriented topic; may possess a sophisticated collection of models, coins, stamps, etc.;
- ✓ Risk-taker; willing to take an unpopular stand even if it means losing friends and/or respect;
- ✓ Alert to stimuli in environment; observant; may appear to be "day-dreaming" or distracted;
- ✓ Determined; likes to do things that are difficult; may be stubborn in this;
- ✓ Likes to be alone; prefers to work independently; needs minimal direction;
- ✓ Likes to be "the best;" may not accept imperfection of any kind; may not take constructive criticism; self-critical and impatient with failures;
- ✓ Sometimes a behavior problem; may be discourteous, unable to accept criticism and/or discipline;
- ✓ High energy; sometimes finds it difficult to sit still; may be impatient;
- ✓ Tends to dominate or "take charge" of an activity in which she/he is involved; can be "bossy" with peers; tendency to dominate others;