



Books about various aspects of Giftedness

Some people prefer to hold a book in their hands when they are learning something new. Just as there are many websites with information about giftedness, there are many, many books on the topic.

This short list includes books worth looking for at the beginning of your journey. Check the website for more suggestions on specific topics. A comprehensive list of books, articles and websites can be found in *Gifted Children: Resources for Parents and Teachers in Western Australia*, available from *Thinking Ahead*.

(Alphabetical order by title)

A Nation Deceived: How Schools Hold Back America's Brightest Students

Nicholas Colangelo, Susan G. Assouline, Miraca U. M. Gross (2004)

America's schools routinely avoid academic acceleration, the easiest and most effective way to help highly capable students. While the popular perception is that a child who skips a grade will be socially stunted, fifty years of research shows that moving bright students ahead often makes them happy. This report shows that these reasons frequently given for avoiding acceleration are simply not supported by research. By distributing thousands of copies and launching a public-awareness campaign, the Nation Deceived report provides teachers and parents the knowledge, support, and confidence to consider acceleration. A copy of this book can be downloaded free of charge from the website (in English and 9 other languages). Hard copies are also available at various times. www.accelerationinstitute.org/nation_deceived/

A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children

James Webb, Janet Gore, Edward Amend, Arlene DeVries 2007, Great Potential Press

Raising a gifted child is both a joy and a challenge, yet parents of gifted children have few resources for reliable parenting information. The four authors, who have decades of professional experience with gifted children and their families, provide practical guidance in areas such as: Characteristics of gifted children; Peer relations; Sibling issues; Motivation & underachievement; Discipline issues; Intensity & stress; Depression & unhappiness; Educational planning; Parenting concerns; Finding professional help; and much more.

Exceptionally Gifted Children

Miraca Gross 2004, 2nd Edition, RoutledgeFalmer, London

Examines the origin, development and school histories of 15 Australian children, the effects of their early school life on their educational and social development – how the normal school environment can effect exceptionally gifted children's self esteem, self-concept, motivation, capacity to find and form friendships, and the children's own attitudes towards their unusual abilities and achievements.

5 Levels of Gifted

Deborah Ruf 2009, Great Potential Press

This book describes differences in developmental stages within the gifted population. The children are classified into five levels of giftedness based on behaviours and developmental milestones, giving parents and educators a reference guide to compare with their own gifted children or students. A child's intellectual level can be estimated from the information provided, after which the book provides different educational approaches and practical advice.

Giftedness in Early Childhood

Cathie Harrison 1999, GERRIC University of NSW

This invaluable text introduces definitions of giftedness and talent, identification and overviews of young gifted children's development in the physical, cognitive, language, social and emotional, and moral spheres. Educational responses to giftedness are addressed, in addition to programming and planning perspectives and practices. Family and parenting concerns and pressures are also discussed. Checklists developed by Professor Michael Saylor of the University of Northern Texas, USA, for use in the identification of young gifted children are included.

Gifted Young Children

Louise Porter 1999, Allen & Unwin, NSW

A comprehensive guide to identifying and working with young children with advanced development, it includes information on how to identify young children and how to challenge them without pushing them too hard. A reference for early childhood professionals and useful resource for parents of children who are or may be gifted.

Helping Gifted Children Soar

Carol A Strip 2000, Gifted Psychology Press

A user friendly guidebook for parents and teachers about important gifted issues such as working together, evaluating classroom programs, forming parent support groups, choosing appropriate curriculum, meeting social and emotional needs and surviving the ups and downs.

High IQ Kids

Kiesa Kay, Deborah Robson and Judy F. Brenneman. Eds. 2007, Free Spirit Press.

Profoundly gifted kids often get the least help in school. It's assumed they're smart enough to succeed on their own, and often teachers (and parents) feel out of their depth with these unique kids. This book is a blend of personal stories and practical strategies, scholarly articles and entertaining essays from a community of voices—parents, educators, authors, researchers, and other experts—addressing the joys and challenges of raising and teaching, living with and understanding exceptionally gifted kids of all ages. Recommended for any adult who wants to know more about high-IQ kids and how to support them, advocate for them, and meet their social, emotional, and learning needs.

Living with Intensity

Susan Daniels and Michael Piechowski 2009, Great Potential Press

An insightful perspective on intensity throughout the lifespan, this book provides practical insights to guide educators, psychologists, and parents. Dabrowski's concepts of over excitabilities and positive disintegration are helpful in understanding what might otherwise seem like inexplicable behaviours among some gifted children and adults. Particularly valuable section on adolescence.

Reforming Gifted Education: Matching the Program to the Child

Karen B. Rogers 2002, Great Potential Press, Inc

This book outlines various types of gifted children, as well as options for school enrichment and acceleration. Karen reports the effectiveness for each option according to the research. From her years of experience consulting with schools, she shows parents and teachers practical ways to design ongoing programs that best meet the needs of bright children.

Upside Down Brilliance: The Visual Spatial Learner

Linda Kreger Silverman 2002, De Leon Publishing, Inc.

Useful resource for parents and teachers about visual spatial learners, their characteristics, ways of thinking, challenges and strengths, plus parenting and teaching strategies that work. Particularly useful information about how to provide the best experiences for them at home and at school. Copies available from *Thinking Ahead*.

Bibliographies which may be also useful (GERRIC Publications):

Parenting Gifted and Talented Children by *Jill Leeman*

The Gifted Child in Early Childhood by *Cathy Harrison*