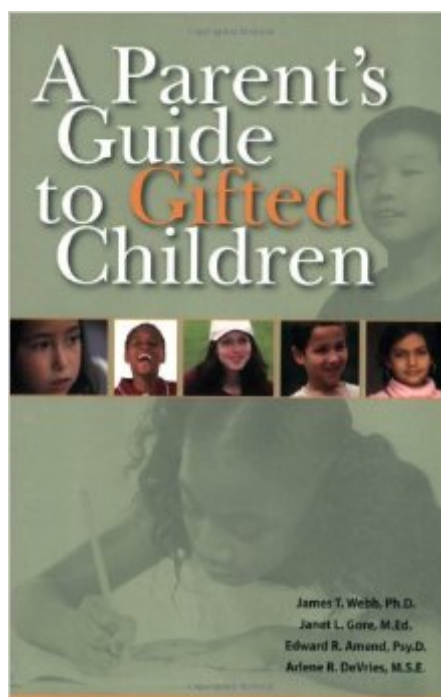


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# A Parent's Guide To Gifted Children



## Synopsis

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, much more!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I've said good things about books in the past, and I stand by all my reviews. But if I could rate one book with 6 stars (out of 5) this would be the one. A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children is THE book that all parents of gifted children should read first. And I mean ALL parents, from parents of moderately gifted kids, to parents of exceptionally / profoundly gifted kids, and twice exceptional gifted kids, too. A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children begins with the basics: terms and definitions, and characteristics of giftedness, from those typical characteristics we all know, to the gifted child's unique Overexcitabilities and potential strengths disguised as weaknesses. Next, Webb and friends discuss communication, an important factor both in parenting and educating the gifted child. Their great ideas are good not only for parents communicating with gifted kids, but also for parents communicating with educators, and parents teaching their gifted kids how to communicate effectively. Even gifted kids need to learn the strength of communication! Motivation and

underachievement are complex with gifted children. Webb et. Al. offer valuable insights into the causes and differences between the two. They move next to establishing discipline and teaching self-management - these are two things we often assume our gifted children can do for themselves, but like any other child, they need our guidance and support. As parents, we need to remember that no matter how smart they are, our gifted children are still children, and we are the adults, with adult experience and wisdom. And Webb and friends give us respectful ways to accomplish this. Continuing with chapters on intensity and perfectionism, idealism and depression, and acquaintances, friends and peers, *A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children* moves into a challenging subject: twice exceptional children. If after reading this chapter, you need more information on these amazing and frustrating gifted kids, read an entire book on the subject: *Misdiagnosis And Dual Diagnoses Of Gifted Children And Adults: ADHD, Bipolar, OCD, Asperger's, Depression, And Other Disorders*. *A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children* concludes with valuable information on the gifted child in school, including gifted identification and educational 'fit' for the gifted child. This educational 'fit' is what parents of the gifted child are searching for, and Webb offers great ideas on how to find it. And if you need help, *A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children* offers suggestions for seeking good professional help - not all professionals are created equal. All in all, *A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children* is the single book you need to get started as the parent of a gifted child. Every parent should read this book!

This book is worth owning--it is a valuable and comprehensive parenting resource that you will refer back to again and again. I especially liked the practical advice and usable suggestions offered in this book, as well as the references to other useful books, websites, and organizations. My favorite feature is the emphasis throughout on managing social/emotional issues that arise in parenting gifted children. The authors suggest effective phrases to use in speaking with your children about challenging situations, and they also suggest phrases to avoid (and why!). Very helpful! There is no other book that I know of that addresses these important issues (including motivation, discipline, perfectionism, and how to find the right educational fit) with so much clear-cut, common-sense, practical advice and information. I am a parent of gifted children, a board member of my state's gifted association, and founder and president of a local gifted parent support group. I talk with many parents and I have suggested this book to numerous people, all of whom have been grateful and have found the answers they were looking for.

This is by far the most comprehensive book about gifted children that I have seen. It covers a broad

range of topics, yet still manages to be quite detailed and "meaty". An entire 19 page chapter is devoted to the characteristics of gifted children. In addition to the usual checklist, the chapter also looks at Dabrowski's overexcitabilities, the gifted child's sense of humor, imagination, etc. The authors embrace an open and flexible definition of giftedness, and offer alternatives to the "one test" model of selection. A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children is a guidebook brimming full of practical suggestions on how to raise a gifted child. If you buy just one book on gifted children, this should be it. I recommend it to both veteran "gifted parents" and those with young children who are just starting to explore the world of giftedness. Whether your child is moderately, highly, or profoundly gifted, this book will have meaningful information and helpful suggestions for you. Chapter five deals with establishing discipline and teaching self management, while chapter eight is all about acquaintances, friends, and peers. Chapter 11, complexities of successful parenting, features a list of six responsibilities for parents: 1. accept and appreciate the child's uniqueness 2. help the child like herself and relate well to others 3. help the child develop a relationship and sense of belonging within the family 4. nurture the development of values 5. teach the child self-motivation, self-management, and self discipline 6. help the child discover his passions, and commit to letting him explore This chapter also contains sensible advice on how to avoid parental pitfalls such as enmeshment, adultizing the gifted child, or over empowering the gifted child. Parents are encouraged to care for themselves and be sure that they are modeling healthy attitudes and behaviors. If the inquisitive reader wants to explore further, the back of the book is filled with an impressive number of endnotes and references to published studies and other works pertaining to child development and giftedness. The authors, Webb, Gore, Amend, and DeVries, are all well respected members of the gifted education community. They have many years of combined experience as teachers, counselors, and parents of gifted children. Their collective wisdom shared here is a real treasure.

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