

K-12 Gifted/Talented Family Guide

This guide is designed to help you partner with teachers to support your child’s learning about creativity and/or leadership in grades kindergarten through twelfth. If you have questions about this information or your child needs extra help, please talk to your child’s teacher.

Gifted/Talented Learners - Creativity

“...Creativity is to be sensitive to problems...; to determine the difficulties; to search for solutions; to make predictions; to hypothesize about deficiencies; to choose one of the solution ways and to try it; to retry and to reveal results” (Torrance, 1974).

Ideas of What I Might Learn and Do (all grades)

I can ...

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a goal or challenge then gather data to better understand the goal or challenge (Clarify). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deeply research a topic and use this research to solve problems. That deep research will include reviewing multiple credible sources related to this research topic (Additional Suggestion).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create questions about my goal or challenge and begin to focus on solutions (Clarify). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask open-ended questions when problems or challenges arise (Additional Suggestion).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore ideas that can help answer my current questions (Ideate). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on keeping an open mind about a problem or challenge so I do not discard another person’s potentially good ideas (Additional Suggestion).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop possible solutions related to my goal or challenge and work to select the best solution (Develop). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on saying yes and building off an idea rather than quickly discarding it. This will be done by adopting a “not yet” [e.g, I haven’t figured this out yet] attitude. (Additional Suggestion).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore ways to carry out the solution (Implement). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep going even when I am confused since I am open to new experiences & ideas (Additional Suggestion).

Questions To Support Learning

- What is your goal or challenge related to learning more about this topic?
- What data or research have you gathered to help you better understand this goal or challenge?
- Did you consider data from multiple sources? Are these sources credible and relevant?

- After gathering data/doing research, did you decide to think about your goal or challenge differently?
- Can you create a plan for how to meet your goal or solve your learning challenge?
- What might be the result(s) of your plan? Is there a specific product that will explain what steps you took and where you ended up?

Additional Questions:

- What topic do you want to learn more about today?
- Why are you interested in that particular topic?
- If you decided to think differently after gathering data/doing research, what changed? And, why do you think that is important?
- Have you tried to keep an open mind about other potential ways to think about your goal or challenge?
- Have you found that there are multiple ways to meet your goal or address your challenge? If so, are there better and/or worse ways to move forward?
- Is there a solution or multiple solutions to your goal or challenge?
- Is there a risk in pursuing one solution versus a different solution?
- Have you chosen the solution you wish to pursue?

Source Data:

<http://www.creativeeducationfoundation.org/creative-problem-solving/the-cps-process/>

(accessed March 2020)

https://gifted.uconn.edu/schoolwide-enrichment-model/promoting_creativity_talented_adolescents/ (accessed March 2020)

Gifted/Talented Learners - Leadership

“Leadership can be defined as the ability to direct individuals or groups to a common decision or action. Students who demonstrate giftedness in leadership ability use group skills and negotiate in difficult situations” (ERIC Clearinghouse ... 1990)

Ideas of What I Might Learn and Do (all grades)

I can ...

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a problem and create a plan for possible ways to address it (Generate Ideas/Show Initiative). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice that people may have different levels of understanding about our tasks and can work to help all involved understand what is expected (Assist).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask others for their ideas on this problem and truly consider the merits of each person’s idea (Collaborate). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adapt when we determine that our original plan or approach is not going to work (Adaptability)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage and support others so we can work together to make decisions on how to solve this problem (Facilitate). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow others to sometimes take control so more ideas/views are shared, and so all involved can grow as leaders (Shared Leadership).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help make sure that everyone understands our common task or goal and can explain why it is important to address it in the first place (Help). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put myself in situations where I may feel uncomfortable in order to advocate for an idea or a cause (Participate).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask for help on a specific task and then allow the other person to complete the task on their own (Delegate). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create my own learning contract so I can make decisions about what and how I will learn (Self-Directed Learning).

Questions To Support Learning

- What is the problem you want to address? Why that problem?
- Are you carefully considering the ideas of others so you can create a better plan for how to address the problem you want to tackle?
- Have you checked to make sure everyone involved understands what you are doing together and why it is important?
- Have you allowed others to work on the assigned task on their own and in their own way?
- Can you help your group work together to come up with a new or updated plan if there is a roadblock?
- Have you considered how you will present the final product to others?

Additional Questions:

- Have you asked for ideas from others about how to address this problem?
- Are you allowing others to make decisions with you?
- Have you allowed others to take control so they can practice their own leadership skills and so they can generate more ideas/approaches that can be explored?
- Who are the decision makers you plan to talk with ... and why those decision makers?
- Can you come up with a plan for another topic(s) to study and how you may study it?

Source Data:

<https://www.nagc.org/blog/turning-teaching-theory-practice-1-%E2%80%93-fostering-leadership-gifted-classroom> (accessed March 2020)

<https://www.nagc.org/resources-publications/resources/social-emotional-issues/leadership> (accessed March 2020)

<https://www.edglossary.org/shared-leadership/> (accessed April 2020)

Gifted/Talented Learners in the General Intellectual, Specific Academic, and Visual & Performing Arts domains

Gifted and/or Talented Students in any of these three domains should refer to the subject-specific guidance for ideas about how to support your learning within these areas of strength and/or interest.