

DoDEA Elementary Gifted Rating Scale (2-6)

Please read prior to rating any students.

Dear Teacher,

Elementary students begin to reveal unique interests and patterns of learning. Because each child is unique, teachers often find it difficult to consider which students may benefit from gifted program services can be quite difficult. A student's academic achievement is often equated with a degree of giftedness. However, gifted children may or may not be "good students." At times students who are truly gifted are overlooked because their interests and learning patterns do not necessarily match classroom activities. Consequently, their need for challenges may be compromised and their social and emotional vulnerabilities may be heightened. This is particularly true for youngsters with very strong potential who are not finding correlating success in academic work.

The Elementary Rating Scale is an instrument designed to help you notice students in your class who may be exhibiting behaviors indicative of giftedness. The fifteen characteristics on the rating scale are traits that have been documented in a number of research studies as characteristics of giftedness. Think about the students in your class and the degree to which they exhibit behaviors that match the characteristics of giftedness.

Remember that many characteristics of gifted learners can be exhibited both positively and negatively. For example, a student who asks many questions about your lesson may be seen as wonderfully knowledgeable and curious or bothersome and non-focused. Gifted children are not always easy to teach! Many times they question authority, stubbornly adhere to their own agendas, or make inappropriate comments and jokes. They may disrupt the class with their high energy or boss others around. Alternatively, they may exhibit extreme withdrawal, sensitivity and perfectionism. They may worry about everything and everybody. Recognize that giftedness is not equated with good or poor behavior. Gifted students may be compliant or forceful, but the more important thing to consider is what they are revealing about their capabilities for advanced, deep, rich, and complex thought.

You play an important role in the identification of students who may be highly gifted. As a trained observer, you have significant information about the students in your class. Please take time to consider each of your students as you complete the rating scale. By focusing on a profile of each child's strengths, you will be more empowered to work with everyone's potential.

DoDEA Gifted Education Elementary Gifted Rating Scale (2-6)

- On a class list, check the names of all students in your class who come to mind when you think of giftedness. Do not hesitate to list a student.
- For each child you select, rate each characteristic on a 1- 4 scale. Use the rating scale descriptors provided to select a rating.
- If another student comes to mind during this time, include that child on your list. You may complete a rating scale on an individual child at any time.
- Submit your ratings to the chairperson of the Gifted Review Committee.

1 = Typical for grade/age.		3 = Quite advanced for grade/age.					
2 = Above average for grade/age.		4 = Remarkable for grade/age. One in fifty.					
	STUDENT						
1.	Learns quickly.						
2.	Enjoys intellectual activity.						
3.	Is verbally proficient.						
4.	Shows power of concentration.						
5.	Has storehouse of knowledge.						
6.	Enjoys "adult" conversations.						
7.	Experiments, explores.						
8.	Exhibits sensitivity.						
9.	Has many and/or intense interests.						
10.	Has a high energy level.						
11.	Asks many questions.						
12.	Displays a sense of humor.						
13.	Expressive with words, numbers, symbols.						
14.	Sees and solves problems.						
15.	Invents, creates.						
	TOTAL						

TEACHER _____ **GRADE** _____ **DATE** _____