Great Books for Gifted Kids

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Criteria for a Great Book

• Kingore
  – written by authors of merit
  – contains well-developed characters who display gifted behaviors
  – include thought-provoking problem situations, issues, or personal needs with which gifted students can identify

http://www.bertiekingore.com/gtchildreninlit.htm
Criteria for a Great Book

• Fisher
  – Content appropriate for your grade level
  – Appropriate reading level (vocabulary and sentence structure challenging)
  – At least one main character who is relatively obviously gifted AND their giftedness is a relevant factor in the storyline

Criteria for a Great Book

- Halsted
  - High level of language/vocabulary.
  - Pronunciation guides.
  - Full array of literary devices.
  - Descriptive words that stimulate strong visual images.
  - Delightful use of language and nuances.
  - Language patters and vocabularies of other times and places.
  - Complex structure puts the mind to work.
  - Evokes experiences of other lifestyles.
  - Unresolved problems lead the reader to make conclusions.

Criteria for a Great Book

• Lynette
  – contains characters who display gifted traits, aptitude, and behaviors
  
  – gifted students will relate to the characters, problems, or issues in way that could benefit the students (e.g., identification, catharsis, insight)
Bibliotherapy

- **Identification**
  - “Hey, I’m like that!”

- **Catharsis**
  - “Gosh, I feel his pain.”

- **Insight**
  - “I understand, now.”

- **Application**
  - “I know what to do!”
- Asynchronous Development
- Degree of Giftedness
- Intrinsic Motivation
- Introversion
Asynchronous Development

Development Rates

P C S E

Average
Above Ave.
Gifted
The Ruins of Gorlan

- John Flanagan
Ranger’s Apprentice Series
Starstruck

- Kathleen Krull & Paul Brewer
Degree of Giftedness

Degree of giftedness = distance from the mean

standards, text books, instruction

Advanced Placement
Ungifted

- Gordon Korman

And then all the pressure starts: Do better, reach for the stars, live up to your potential, go all out, strive, achieve. Why? p. 101

To me this stuff was all so easy that 4 out of 35 and 35 out of 25 were really the same thing. It was like kicking puffballs of dandelion seeds as you walk across an open field. You could get them all. But why would you? It just didn’t matter. p. 102
Supergifted

- Gordon Korman
Millicent Min, Girl Genius

- Lisa Yee
Millicent Min, Girl Genius

• Lisa Yee
Intrinsic Motivation
An Inconvenient Alphabet

• Beth Anderson & Elizabeth Baddeley
The Right Word

• Jen Bryant & Melissa Sweet
Planting Stories/Sembrando Historias

• Anika Aldamuy Denise & Paola Escobar
Introversion

From others

From being alone
The Library

- Sarah Stewart
Dabrowski’s Overexcitabilities

Photo taken December 12, 1977. Photo Credit: Russ Hewitt, Edmonton
Intellectual

• NEED to know
• Questioning
• Theory
• Moral thinking
• World issues
• Critical of others
Zoey and Sassafras

• Asia Citro & Marion Lindsay
Zoey and Sassafras

• Asia Citro & Marion Lindsay
The Wednesday Wars

- Gary D. Schmidt
The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes

- Mark Pett and Gary Rubinstein
Biography Comparison

Select an historical figure about whom you'd like to learn. Read two biographies of that person written by different authors. Compare them. Do the facts match in both of them? Do they build a similar picture of the person's character, feelings, and beliefs? Make notes below and indicate what is similar and what is different.

Title: ______________________  Title: ______________________
Author: ____________________  Author: ____________________
Rosa

• Nikki Giovanni & Bryan Collier
Rosa Parks

- Lisbeth Kaiser & Marta Antelo
3-Way Venn

3 Biographies of the same person
Imaginational

- Rich imagination
- Vivid dreams
- Elaborate stories
- Multiple imaginary friends
- Day dream
Funny Bones

Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras

Duncan Tonatiuh
Willy’s Stories

- Anthony Browne
Willy Series

- Anthony Browne
The Dreamer

- Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Peter Sís
Emotional

- Emotional depth
- Strong attachments (people, animals, stuffed animals)
- Self-critical
- Fears and anxiety
- Cries easily
- Appears to be overreacting
- Physical reactions (stomach and head aches)
The Loneliest Girl in the Universe

- Lauren James
Deliver Us From Normal

• Kate Klise
The Geek’s Guide to Unrequited Love

- Sarvenaz Tash
Sensual

- Heightened senses
- Discord
- Ticking
- Visual composition
- Clothing (tags, socks, stockings)
- Foods (texture, allergies, tastes)
- Aromas
- Hands on walls & clothes
Green Pants

• Kenneth Kraegel
Other Books About 2e Students

Sharon M Draper

Linda Mullaly Hunt

out of my mind

FISH IN A TREE
Psychomotor

- Rapid speech
- Fast games
- Movement
- Nervous habits
- Little sleep
- Impulsivity
- Interrupt
- Workaholic
Checked

- Cynthia Kadohata
Ghost

• Jason Reynolds
Track Series

- Jason Reynolds
Not Gifted but Great Books

Not Gifted but Great Books

Merci Suárez Changes Gears

author: Meg Medina

Monster

author: Walter Dean Myers
My Reading List

- Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy
  - Karen Foxlee

- Princess Academy
  - Shannon Hale

- e. l. konigsburg (george)

- Lisa Yee

- Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time
  - Lisa Yee
My Reading List

1. *The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo
2. *The Inexplicable Logic of My Life* by Benjamin Alire Sáenz
3. *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman
To learn more...
Some of My Best Friends are Books

• Judith Wynn Halstead
Books for Gifted Kids

OCTOBER 17, 2019 BY LISA VAN GEMERT — LEAVE A COMMENT

I love books, so when I was at the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children Conference in Nashville, TN, I went to every session about books. Luckily, there were several great ones!

At one of them a favoe person of mine, Lynette Breelove from the Gatton Academy, shared a list of books for gifted kids that was divided into categories (picture books, middle grade, and young adult). She also included reviews for each book.

I thought it would be great to share this with you so you can explore these books with your gifted child. Here is a list of the books she shared:

- **Picture Books**:
  - *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells
  - *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White

- **Middle Grade**:
  - *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green
  - *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

- **Young Adult**:
  - *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
  - *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

Sign up for the monthly newsletter and receive a free copy of 15 Ways to Help Gifted Kids Thrive in School.

**FREE TIPS FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS**

Let's connect!

Join me on Pinterest!
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Robert W. Seney, Ed. D. Vita
Professor Emeritus of Education
Novel guides that include: summary, essential understandings/questions, bibliotherapy questions, Blooms questions, vocabulary, curricular connections, creative product ideas

Hot Topics Reading Lists!

Where can you find book lists for your favorite math monster, physics fiend, young lawyer or political scientist, programming prodigy, scientist, and more? Fantasy books featuring Dragons? Special topic books for gifted kids from 1 - 100? Hoagies' Page, of course! Click on your favorite topic, or check out all the lists...

"I would be most content if my children grew up to be the kind of people who think decorating consists mostly of building enough bookshelves." -- Anna Quindlen

Arts and Crafts
Being Gifted / Social Stuff
Cartoons / Humor
Classic Fiction
Early Readers
Geography /
Girls & Women
Science
Sci-Fi / Fantasy
Teen Boys
Biographies