

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the frame, creating a modern, layered effect. The central area is white, providing a clean space for the text.

Supporting Your Child Through Social and Emotional Changes

Points To Remember

- ▶ Asynchronous Development - Development in different skill areas varies or develops unevenly. Intellectual/Emotional, Intellectual/Motor or Social Skills
- ▶ Communication - seems easy enough.....but for many of us...it's not.

Five Social and Emotional Traits of Giftedness

- ▶ Divergent Thinking Ability
- ▶ Excitability
- ▶ Sensitivity
- ▶ Perceptiveness
- ▶ Entelechy

Divergent Thinking Ability

Characteristics

- ▶ Prefers the unusual, original and creative aspects of any topic
- ▶ Avid readers
- ▶ Sees things holistically...will move immediately to the answer
- ▶ Concentrates at length, but often times doesn't complete the project/assignment
- ▶ Decision-making and setting priorities are difficult
- ▶ Lacks conformity
- ▶ Often appears to others as rebellious, unmotivated and inattentive.
- ▶ Doesn't see or understand social relationships
- ▶ Usually feels alone

Interventions

- ▶ Validation
- ▶ Some protection from criticism
- ▶ Focus on strengths and weaknesses of the project
- ▶ Develop social awareness
- ▶ Focus more on the creative process than the final outcome

Excitability

Characteristics

- ▶ High energy/needs little sleep
- ▶ High emotional reactions
- ▶ Generally very competitive
- ▶ Impulsive behavior
- ▶ Wide variety of interest
- ▶ Trouble completing projects
- ▶ Trouble turning off thoughts and feelings
- ▶ Nervous habits and tics
- ▶ Sometimes misdiagnosed as ADHD

Interventions

- ▶ Time for any physical activities after school
- ▶ Needs to learn to monitor body to recognize when they are amping up.
- ▶ Relaxation activities
- ▶ Reduce anxiety
- ▶ Chunking assignments/journal writing/express themselves safely/focus on object to calm down

Sensitivity

Characteristics

- ▶ Can relate heavily to others, environment, situations
- ▶ Passion is related to their depth of feelings
- ▶ Compassionate
- ▶ Often described as emotional giftedness
- ▶ Empathetic
- ▶ Sometimes feels responsible for others feelings
- ▶ Can feel over-stimulated/uncomfortable with sensory input
- ▶ Anxious
- ▶ Fear of the unknown
- ▶ Commits extensively to their beliefs

Interventions

- ▶ Exposure
- ▶ Help them understand the difference between compassion and empathy
- ▶ Help them understand that in a relationship each person is responsible for what happens and for their own feelings

Perceptiveness

Characteristics

- ▶ Has the ability to view several aspects of a situation simultaneously
- ▶ Can see quickly to the core of an issue
- ▶ Sense of honesty and dishonesty
- ▶ Truth very important over everything else
- ▶ Fear of the unknown

Interventions

- ▶ Has to learn trust
- ▶ Needs mutual respect
- ▶ Feelings can be more important than truth (social)
- ▶ Role play - learn there are other opinions that are valid
- ▶ Learn there is room for compromise

Entelechy

Characteristics

- ▶ Particular type of motivation
- ▶ A need for self-determination and inner strength to direct life and growth
- ▶ Generally highly motivated
- ▶ Strong-willed
- ▶ Often times peers turn to them for support
- ▶ Can be taken advantage of by their peers
- ▶ Needs to learn to say no

Interventions

- ▶ Develop a balanced view of defined strengths and weaknesses
- ▶ The strengths and weaknesses should be defined by the child
- ▶ Teach them to set limits

Scale



Resources

► Exploring Social and Emotional Aspects of Giftedness in Children

by Deirdre V. Lovecky

<http://sengifted.org/archives/articles/exploring-social-and-emotional-aspects-of-giftedness-in-children>

Dabrowski's Overexcitabilities in Gifted Children

<http://giftedkids.about.com/od/gifted101/overexcite.htm>

Overexcitability and the Gifted

by Sharon Lind

<http://www.sengifted.org/archives/articles/overexcitability-and-the-gifted>