

Gifted Ed?

yes you can!

Ideas for serving diverse gifted and talented students in classrooms with no or minimal cost

Most of New York's gifted students are not having their educational needs met. You can help. Following are just a few free or low cost ways to respond to the academic and affective needs of gifted students.

FACT: Gifted students process information much quicker than their age peers

you can

- Pre-assess strength areas and allow them to work on content-rich alternative assignments
- Allow them to move through curriculum more quickly with subject-based or whole-grade acceleration
- Compact (reduce) the time it takes to complete a unit of study

FACT: Gifted students think at more complex levels than their age peers

you can

- Provide above grade level content when teaching topics
- Provide activities and tasks that are interdisciplinary (across curriculum areas)
- Organize content conceptually (big ideas, themes, etc.)

FACT: Gifted students benefit from being with other gifted students for all or part of the day

you can

- Group gifted students together within the classroom (cluster grouping, subject grouping, or pull-out grouping), allowing them to work with other students at a level and pace that matches their ability in the content area (ex. high math student working with other high math students)

FACT: Gifted students may appear to be more sensitive, perceptive, and critical of themselves and others

you can

- Provide books on similar issues (bibliotherapy). Discussion groups, journaling, and being with other gifted students can provide a healthy outlet for, and acceptance of, their sensitivities

FACT: Gifted students may display strong interests or passions

you can

- Allow for student-selected choice in final projects, activities (ex. choice boards), or independent research projects
- Provide opportunities through mentorships, technology applications, TED Talks, etc. for them to explore their interests with experts

Sources used:

VanTassel-Baska, J. and Baska, A. *Curriculum Planning & Instructional Design for Gifted Learners (3rd ed.)*. Prufrock Press, 2019

National Association for Gifted Children, www.nagc.org



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