

Handouts for Pito mata – realising potential

CORE
EDUCATION
Tātai Aho Rau



Handout 2:

Recognising Giftedness

Selected characteristics of giftedness in young children¹

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advanced cognitive skills • learns easily and quickly • sophisticated oral language • exceptional memory – retains a quantity of information • long concentration span – when interested • perseveres; is motivated • curious, with wide-ranging interests and knowledge • preference for older companions • keen observer; has an eye for detail • interested in, and skilled with, numbers • exceptional spatial ability (puzzles, mazes, maps, diagrams) • early or sophisticated drawing or writing • individualistic • leadership skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • early milestone achievements • early and avid reader • high mental energy • highly imaginative or creative • perfectionist • sensitive, empathic • concerned with moral or social issues • intense • sophisticated sense of humour • high academic achievement • works independently • self-motivated, self-sufficient • rote knowledge: counting, alphabet, knowledge of body parts, etc. • social skills: mature understanding of social situations • emotionally well-adjusted • requires little sleep |
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¹ New Zealand Centre for Gifted Education (2020). *Poutama: A pilot programme on giftedness in early learning*.

