A High Achiever vs. A Gifted Learner

from “The Gifted and Talented Child” by Janice Szabos, Maryland Council for Gifted & Talented, Inc.

A High Achiever

Knows the answers
Is interested
Is attentive
Has good ideas
Works hard
Commits time and effort to learning
Answers questions
Absorbs information
Copies and responds accurately
Is a top student
Needs 6 to 8 repetitions for mastery
Understands ideas
Grasps meaning
Completes assignments
Is a technician
Is a good memorizer
Is receptive
Listens with interest
Prefers sequential presentation of information
Is pleased with his or her own learning

A Gifted Learner

Asks the questions
Is highly curious
Is intellectually engaged
Has original ideas
Performs with ease
May need less time to excel
Responds with detail and unique perspectives
Manipulates information
Creates new and original products
Is beyond his or her age peers
Needs 1 to 2 repetitions for mastery
Constructs abstractions
Draws inferences
Initiates projects
Is an innovator
Is insightful; makes connections with ease
Is intense
Shows strong feelings, opinions, perspectives
Thrives on complexity
Is highly self-critical