

In today's world, the form of gift appraisal for children, firstly with basic cognitive tests then moving on to advanced ones according to each child's ability, is becoming increasingly popular and developed. In the US, in some schools, there are special programs for gifted students and programs that can identify gifted students based on their IQ and standardized test scores. In Canada, parents often give their children an anthropometric test from a very young age to find out their child's outstanding personality and strengths. However, you should not completely depend on schools for discovering your children's talents and anthropological indicators are also sometimes unable to follow your children after days and years. This is because the change of mindset and thinking should be constantly recorded in a matter of days, and one assessment is certainly not indicative of the entire development process. There are many factors you can apply to identify a gifted child, but some of them go unnoticed in the traditional education system. If your child is gifted, you need to make sure he/she will receive the special attention needed to fully develop. You can recognize a gifted child through outstanding learning, excellent communication skills, thoughtful thinking and deep empathy. According to the synthesis of Professor Howard Gardner from Harvard Graduate School, there are seven most common forms of intelligence in children, including: spatial, kinaesthetic, musical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, linguistic and logical intelligence.

For the first time, CAT used tests to assess the ability and outstanding strengths of children in each specific field such as music, painting, memory and language, etc. The system of questions in the tests is constructed by CAT members in collaboration with the leading team of education experts and psychologists in the United States. The test fully applies the globally proven school of thoughts. In early 2018, CAT, for the first time, piloted 8 cognitive tests and earned the trust of 6 million parents and more than 14,000 children in 5 countries with a developed education sector such as the UK, the US, Germany, Australia and Canada. This is a cognitive test of international standards which helps children develop outstanding thinking, awakens their innate potential and develops their creativity.

The cognitive test is a system of questions concerning different fields and is used to evaluate and classify the cognitive perception of the person performing the test. Awareness is an action or a process of acquiring knowledge and understanding through thinking, experience and senses, including processes such as knowledge, attention, memory, evaluation, estimation, reasoning, computation, problem solving, decision making, comprehension and language use. That path of awareness is carried out through stages from simple to complex, from low to high, from specific to abstract, from external to inner nature. Based on the understanding about the basic principles of that awareness, the questionnaires are divided into 8 tests in 8 different fields with different characteristics that are suitable for children from 0-10 years old according to each appropriate level to accurately, objectively and fully assess their abilities.

Based on this cognitive test, young children can initially shape their talents and strengths, promote and choose to pursue their inner genius. Young Mozart was more musically talented than everyone. He could fully understand and perform any piece of music or difficult guitar technique right after one teaching by his father. When he was 4 years old, he played the piano very well, including difficult pieces. At 5 years old, his first works as a 5-year-old boy with many good songs, like "Melodica", were composed. His father once again marveled at his son's talent because he taught him to play the piano and violin, yet never taught his son to compose music.

The importance of discovering the aptitude of children from a young age is gradually becoming a top concern for parents. They want their children to fully develop themselves and excel at what they are gifted with. The geniuses, from a young age, have extraordinary qualities in certain areas. However, without daily cultivation and practice, the talent will gradually deteriorate and disappear. With the personalization of the curriculum according to each small change of children, CAT guarantees the after-test output quality that children will be able to think and perceive 3 times better than their peers. Many children, after experimenting with the textbook, have initially achieved significant achievements on the way to conquer their talents.

According to leading experts in the field of music, 4-year-old children can begin to get used to the piano keyboard. There are various ways for parents to help enhance children's sense and thinking in terms of music, such as: listening to music, giving children a chance to interact with musical instruments so that they can get used to recognizing the timbres of musical instruments. However, not every child is an innate musical genius, so what are the traits which indicate whether your children are musically gifted?

The first thing to notice is that children are very curious. They often ask questions about everything around them, especially about the outside sounds. Children who are really musically talented often notice sounds that people often overlook. Their ears are very fastidious in refining the different types of music and different pitches of the sound. Besides, they clearly reveal the flexibility and dexterity of using the hands and feet when performing difficult tasks. If your child can use his left hand to do one thing and his right hand to do another, he really has superior qualities in the field of music. In addition, the fact that children possess a rich vocabulary that can help express their ideas in a coherent and confident way when communicating is also a strength in the field of music. Smooth expression of thoughts is also a sign of genius in music composition. Children who are sensitive to music and can respond strongly to vocalization are often attracted to music and quickly absorb the melodies, songs and can reinterpret them correctly. Children have the ability to distinguish the sounds of many instruments such as piano, guitar, violin ... and are able to quickly memorize melodies and difficult pieces of music that other children cannot do. According to some experts, children with index fingers shorter than the ring finger will play instruments better. The left-handed children have a better sense of music than the right-handed ones.

Applying the features commonly found in those who are gifted in music, the questionnaire in the musical test has been built very rich with the main purposes of identifying, measuring, evaluating and analyzing music sensibility, vocal sensibility, sound, tone, rhythm, note and timbre recognition. Besides, there is also a section to test the ability to reproduce the sound and pitch of the note, re-sing and play it on a music

instrument. For children aged 3 to 5, the most appropriate instrument to practice is piano or organ. In particular, young children need an appropriate teaching method because children often like to play and get bored if we force them to learn. In the future, Foreign Affairs, International Relations, Foreign Languages or Music, Literature and Art Clubs will be the first choice for young children who realize that they have musical talents. And later, you can perform under the spotlight as a singer, a musician, a dancer or become a music composer. In addition, if you have the right orientation, you can cultivate your skills in foreign schools since being music critics or teachers always requires high expertise. We see that the entertainment industry worldwide is growing constantly. There are many TV shows for musical talents, from "The Voice" for adults and "The Voice Kid" for young children, and also a lot of music programs for people find and show their talents. The entertainment industry is very active with a series of promising new singers of all ages. If you have enough talent and passion, don't hesitate to pursue your dream. The development opportunity is huge when the public demand of enjoying music is increasing.

## ***ABOUT CAT COMPARISON TEST***

### **1. Definition**

The ability to compare is one of the first and most natural forms of children's thinking since they were born. When they were infant, one of their first difference that mothers have to know is the difference among distinct objects, that children can compare and realize "Oh, this is different". Without the ability to compare – children cannot link objects together and distinguish them. This affects the mathematics and logical thinking potential.

Why is comparison ability important? The answer lies in the research of famous educators Robert Marzano, Debra Pickering and Jane Pollock (2001). In the research into teaching efficiency, Marzano, Pickering and Pollock found the growth strategy when letting students compare different objects and they realized that children with good comparison ability had better academic extracurricular performance than the

ones with average comparison ability. Recently, a study of Marzano in arts and science of teaching (2007) reaffirmed that when teachers required students to determine the similarity and difference by analyzing and comparing, the students' academic performance was improved.

Though comparison thinking is a natural activity of children's brain and an essential thing to learn, most children have a difficult time to use comparison at school and in extracurricular activities.

## **2. Enhance and orientate children's comparison ability**

Most children have these following abilities if they can analyze and tell the difference among things

- The ability to present the clear analysis of an issue, idea, document and experience.
- The ability to aid positions with well-developed arguments.
- The ability to develop reasons with effective using of detailed information and proof.
- The ability to explain the importance of analyzing stories and documents from different times and places to understand the historical events.

We all want our children to possess all those abilities, but almost parents forget that comparison ability is the most important skill. Children will reveal this skill most clearly at the early ages by showing that they like this thing because that thing is made of this one, which annoys them, or they prefer this thing. That is when the mind and consciousness of children produce a type of wave enabling them to compare things to choose the most suitable one. To children with good comparison ability, researches show they are also very independent in studying as well as personal relationships.

Here are some methods for parents to improve children's comparison ability

- Enhance children's memory by reminding them to have enough sleep for the brain to rest. Let them sleep enough 8 hours / night, before 22:00 because from

00:00 to 3:00, the body is in deep sleep, the brain processes, reviews, enhances and stores information. The spirit will be more relaxed in the morning. Besides, parents should include more essential nutrients to increase children's memory, like tuna, mackerel, salmon and other kinds of fish rich in fat acid omega-3 and acid docosahexaenoic (DHA). DHA plays an important role in forming the structure and function of the brain. With regular absorption of the right amount, DHA considerably aids the memory, language, social skill and problem solving skill of the children. That is why World Health Organization (WHO/FAO) recommends parents to include the right amount of DHA 75mg/day for children from 1 to 3 years old.

- Improve children's thinking skill by get them intellectual toys like logo or movies for kids that require them to think, find clues to solve some kind of code.
- Let children access to different kinds of object so that they understand things are differently formed and differently functional. That is why they need to learn comparison.
- Improve the habit of comparison for children. It means every time handing things to them, parents should present the structure and function so that they can remember. Require them to compare those things next time they go shopping.
- Enhance children's ability to communicate and let them recognize different circumstances of communication.

### **3. What are the features of children with good comparison ability and how do they grow?**

According to Abacus Master training center, there are many types of intelligence inside a kid. A kid reveals typical signs of each intelligence type such as interactive intelligence, linguistic intelligence or natural intelligence. Parents need to care about their children so as to predict their potential.

According to Abacus Master training center, in order to improve children's potential, parents can spend time exploring with their children, like digging up a small garden, teaching them how to plant and take care of trees. You can buy books about the nature as presents for the children.

A kid who sticks the nose in every story, who can crawl, walk or talk ... at the early of time shows the signs of a smart kid. Hence, parents should notice them so as to create the best condition for their children's growth. For examples, when children want to "stalk" a conversation, respond with a happy voice and a bright face. In the future, a kid good at comparing things will be flexible, have more than one opportunity in all professions and definitely go really far.

Always being interested in new things is a sign of a kid really smart in this field. Today, children are obsessed with a small little ball shining and making sound mommy buy for them, but tomorrow, the ball is already disgraced. Why does it happen?

A survey conducting with children from 9 to 12 months old proved that in all the toys both old and new, children tend to choose the new ones. Smart children always need new information and grow bored quickly about old, repeated information.

The need for studying is one of the key factors making children smart in the future.

Commonly, infants barely remember what they have been through. But to the smart ones with early grown brain, they appear to remember faces of relatives very soon. This soon forms the tendency of clinging to mom, grandma and fearing strangers.

One more way to recognize: If parents take something from children and they cry, asking for it at the age of 5-6 months, seeking for it at the age of 10-11 months, they have incredible memory.

Besides, if you notice children observing some toys or objects for a long time, no blinking, or sticking their eyes to a cartoon movie, this is a sign of children with high IQ.

When children possess natural intelligence, parents must have experienced many funny moments with adorable, unique collections about the nature of the children (the collection of stones, dry leaves, feathers...) Those are the most vivid signs proving the natural intelligence of the children. Every child is born with a distinct potential, no child is like any child. Some are extraordinary in many kinds of intelligence, but it is important that the way parents educate, orientate decides whether their children succeed or not when they grow up.

Agile children with good comparison ability have outstanding growth in the future. Doctor and director are the 2 most developed positions for them.

#### **4. Which level of this skill is your child at? - *Excellent***

Congratulations! Your child is **excellent** in this field. He/she has aptitude for many different sectors. You can totally let him/her choose career because these kinds of kid know how to choose and evaluate the best options for their lives. However, you should give your kid some suggestions because in the process of children's growth, parents know the best about which profession their children will shine the brightest in.

You should help your kid improve and preserve this skill by letting him/her deal with different situations in daily life and listening to his/her opinions about different issues. Also, parents should not stop children from watching detective movies. If you concern about your child's eyesight, explain about the time allowed to watch and the conditions attached.

About studying, parents should choose suitable methods for their children. For examples, when children revise lesson, many parents force them to study one subject



in a long time, testing them until they had it learnt by heart, which causes them headache, dizzy, unable to learn. To avoid this phenomenon, parents should teach their children to learn alternatively: After a time focusing on one subject (less than 35 minutes), you should let children rest a bit (5-10 minutes) then move to another subject. This makes children feel more sober, easier to learn by heart. “Sticking on the same subject” cause the inhibition to the memorized traces. Though parents think these things have nothing to do with the ability to grow and compare of children, the truth is they have inseparable connection and determination to the children’s success in studying.

Besides, picking a suitable process for your child is a choice supported by CAT. Get your kid a process and follow it with him/her will help enhancing that skill in a clear and more outstanding way. CAT gives you and your kid free process of studying at home with our observation and companionship. After each lesson, we will comeback with a different test to ensure that your child has a firm growth until the time of adulthood and success.