The Parents’ Role in the Development of Their Children’s Creativity

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1. What creativity is.
2. Who is creative.
3. Why creativity is important.
4. How to nurture creativity in your children.
1. What Creativity is
Creativity

is the generation of novel, useful ideas.
Creativity

• can be expressed in anything that people do—mathematics, language, art, sports, business, inventing, cooking, parenting, etc.
According to Torrance,

“When a person has no learned or practiced solution to a problem, some degree of creativity is required”
People Who Study Creativity Often Look At 4 Ps

- Person
- Process
- Product
- Place
2. Who is creative.
Creativity is Like Intelligence in Several Ways

• Everyone has some
• It can be developed or stifled
• There are levels

Bonnie Cramond
The University of Georgia
Some simply call them C and c

- C -- works of genius
- c -- everyday creativity

Painting by Renoir
Nutritious meal by busy Parent
### Characteristics of Creative Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emotional</th>
<th>Intellectual</th>
<th>Physical</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Openness</td>
<td>• Problem solving</td>
<td>• Perfect Pitch or other keen sense</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Curiosity</td>
<td>• Fluency</td>
<td>• Eye hand coordination</td>
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<td>• Risk taking</td>
<td>• Flexibility</td>
<td>• Visual memory</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Strong self concept</td>
<td>• Originality</td>
<td>• High energy</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Persistence</td>
<td>• Elaboration</td>
<td>• Body type</td>
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<td>• Courage</td>
<td>• Abstractness of Thought</td>
<td>• Looks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Transfer</td>
<td>• Size</td>
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The Characteristics of Creative Children can be seen as positive or negative.

Curious or nosy?
Persistent or stubborn?
High energy or hyperactive?
Inattentive or…

We’ll see what the principal has to say about your attention span, young man!

The valiant spaceman Spiff has been captured!
...Imaginative?

THE ALIENS DOUBTLESSLY WANT THE SECRET FORMULA TO THE ATOMIC NAPALM NEUTRALIZER!

Moments from the torture chamber, spiff springs into action!
CALVIN, PAY ATTENTION!!

We're studying geography! Now what state do you live in?

Denial.

Sigh... I don't suppose I can argue with that.
Impulsive or...
...Freedom of spirit?
Motor Hyperactivity or...
DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE BELL? RECESS IS OVER. IT'S TIME TO GO IN.

I'M NOT DONE YET.

IT TAKES ME MORE THAN ONE RECESS TO WEAR MYSELF INTO A STATE OF SUBMISSION.

..High Energy?
3. Why creativity is important.
We Should Be Interested in Developing Creativity for the Good of the Individual and the Society
Creative Expression Fosters Mental Health
Creative Students Can Become Creative Adults

• Bevin Carnes
• She was “different”
• “In her own world”
• Other kids teased her
• Her parents encouraged her creativity and supported her.
• Won an academy award in student division for animated film
• Did an internship for Disney
• ABC video
• http://abcnews.go.com/Video/playerIndex?id=4276368&affil=wsb
By teaching children to express their emotions creatively, we help them...

• Learn to express themselves in positive ways
• Become more resilient to the stresses of modern life
Creativity Engages Children in Their Learning To Keep Them in School
Creativity is Necessary for Our Society

Recent reports warn that all nations must develop their creative thinkers to retain their economic and scientific position in the competitive world.
PROTOTYPICAL U.S. INDUSTRY
in 10 years if all goes well

IN THE UNITED STATES

- Research
- Development
- Design
- Marketing and Sales
- Global Supply Chain Management

Creative Work

Routine Work
DONE BY PEOPLE

Routine Work
DONE BY MACHINES

IN LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
In a Recent Poll Conducted by IBM

1,500 CEO's identified creativity, defined as the ability to make *innovative* decisions, as the single most important area of "leader competency."
Creativity in All Domains Improves Our Lives
Creativity helps prepare our children for their future...without knowing what it will be
Individuals At the Top of Their Fields are Both Intelligent and Creative

- They are imaginative and analytical
- They consume and produce knowledge
- “Imagination is more important than knowledge.”
- **Albert Einstein**
4. How to nurture creativity in your children.
What Stifles Creativity?

• Fear of failure—
  • Too much emphasis on perfection
  • Too much competition

• Lack of time for imagining and playing—
  • Too much homework
  • Too many structured activities, drill and practice

• Rigid thinking and expectations
  • Only one way to do things
  • Pushing our expectations too much instead of finding the child’s passion
It is not our job to form children into what we want them to be; it is our job to find out who they are and help them be the best of it.
How Can We Nurture Creativity?

• Learn about creativity.
• Recognize the characteristics of creative children.
• Value creativity.
• Help children think.
Children Should Know About Their Own Brains

Children’s motivation and achievement can improve just through learning about their brains and how they work.

http://blogs.kqed.org/mindshift/2012/04/what-kids-should-know-about-their-own-brains/
We need to teach students how to think, not what to think.
How Can You Best Advocate for Your Child?

1. Begin by trying to partner with the school to meet the needs of gifted students (don’t begin with being adversarial).

2. Recognize that multiple voices have a greater impact (as long as they are not shrill). So, joining or starting a parent group can have long term benefits.
NAGC is a Resource for Advocacy:  
http://www.nagc.org
Hoagie’s Gifted Education Page
http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/parents.htm

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Reading lists and links! ↑

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Parents of Gifted Children...

Don't Miss... the Best of Hoagies' Gifted Education Page!

Gifts for the Gifted: the Best of Hoagies’ Shopping Guide

PC Security ★
PC Security is about your PC and your identity. Simple (free!) steps to protect yourself and your computer...

November 2010 Shop Hoagies' Page and Support us while you Shop!

There's only YOU! Hoagies' Page depends on you for its support. Make your purchases through our affiliates programs: click on Amazon, MindWare, Highlights, Barnes & Noble, Discovery Channel Store and dozens of affiliates before you put your items in your shopping cart. And it's FREE for you. Thanks!

Click for more F.Y.I.

Wanted: Students who need Community Service Hours!

If you are or know a student who needs Community Service hours for their graduation or other requirement, please contact or have them contact Carolyn K. at Hoagies’ Gifted Education Page. Hoagies’ Page needs students for various tasks at Hoagies’ Page, and could really use YOUR help! Thank you.

Click for more Community Announcements

If there is anything more dangerous to the life of the mind than having no independent commitment to ideas, it is having an excess of commitment to some special and constricting idea. – Richard Hofstadter
http://www.giftedjourney.com/

Gifted Children: The Journey

Long before gifted children are formally identified, many parents are aware. They quickly discover that their child requires more attention and time.

The journey of the gifted child is an exciting and challenging one. Parents want to learn everything they can to try to help.

They realize that their child is sensitive, emotional, wants to learn and will often teach him or herself. They love books and many learn to read at a young age.

When it's time to start school parents are concerned that their gifted child's needs won't be met.

They wonder if their child will be challenged or left sitting bored. They have a lot of questions and some may be left unanswered.

Giftedjourney is a site designed to help parents better understand what it is like to be gifted and how to best help their child along his or her journey.
“There are two lasting bequests we can give our children.
One is roots.
The other is wings.”

Hodding Carter, Jr.