



Gifted and Talented Children



'Gifted and Talented' describes children with the ability or potential to develop significantly ahead of their peers:

'Gifted' learners are those with abilities in one or more academic subjects, such as Maths or English.

'Talented' learners are those who have practical skills in areas such as sport, music, design or creative and performing arts.

[Extract from
www.nidirect.gov.uk/supporting-gifted-and-talented-children]

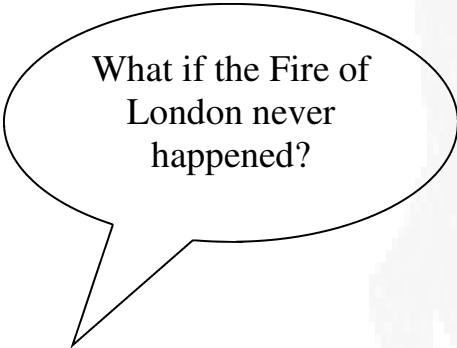
One of the most important ways of helping your Gifted and Talented child is to encourage them to extend their thinking skills and to analyse their findings. This can be achieved by asking open-ended questions yourself but more importantly by getting them to formulate their own questions.

Such questions might start with phrases such as:

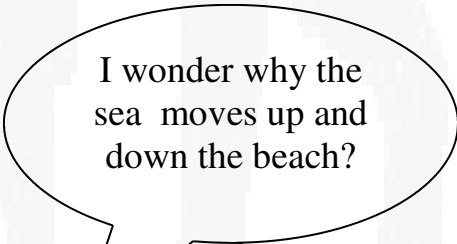
What if.....?

I wonder why.....?

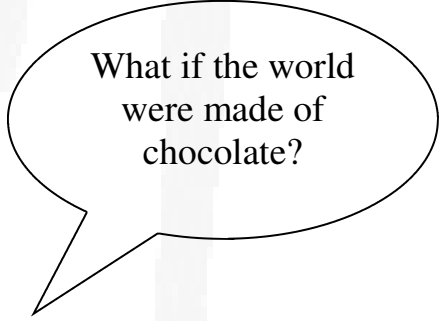
What do you think.....?



What if the Fire of London never happened?



I wonder why the sea moves up and down the beach?



What if the world were made of chocolate?



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Able children benefit from a wide range of experiences.

Here are a few ideas to help you to have fun with your child at home:

- Take them on a visit to a museum or an art gallery many of these are free! Talk together about what you see and encourage them to ask questions about it.
- Encourage them to experience music of all kinds, being performed live where possible, go to the theatre or to the ballet. This could even be a birthday treat!
- Visit famous landmarks—buildings or places. Encourage them to ask questions about what happened there or why it is important.
- Take walks in the countryside—up mountains, through woodland or along the coast. Encourage them to explore their surroundings, talk about what they discover there or how it makes them feel.
- Try out new sporting challenges/opportunities—look out for ‘taster days’ being offered in the local area (often during the school holidays by clubs or the local authority).
- Join clubs or take part in activities to broaden their knowledge of a particular subject—this will also help their social skills by mixing with a wider age group.
- Play games involving strategy such as chess or draughts. Do word puzzles or solve crosswords together. Try sudoku and other similar puzzles.

REMEMBER HAVE FUN TOGETHER!



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Finally, here are some websites to look at that might also help.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk

www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

www.nhm.ac.uk

www.tate.org.uk

www.the-observatory.org

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk