

Introduction to Gifted Education Competencies

*Component 1 of the
Competencies
Collaboration*

SEVA

Southeast Virginia Council of Gifted Administrators

The Purpose of the Project

The purpose of this collaborative project is to provide easily accessible basic training in gifted education competencies to classroom teachers and school counselors working with gifted students, to meet the requirements of the Virginia Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students.

The Components

1. *Introduction and Pre-assessment*
2. *Identification of Gifted Students*
3. *Characteristics of Gifted Students*
4. *Social-emotional Needs of Gifted Students*
5. *Differentiation Strategies for Teachers*
6. *Curriculum for Gifted Students*
7. *Collaboration in the Classroom*
8. *Legal Issues and Frequently Asked Questions*
9. *Counseling Gifted Students*
10. *Finding Underserved Populations of Gifted Students*
11. *Summary and Post-assessment*

Guess Who?

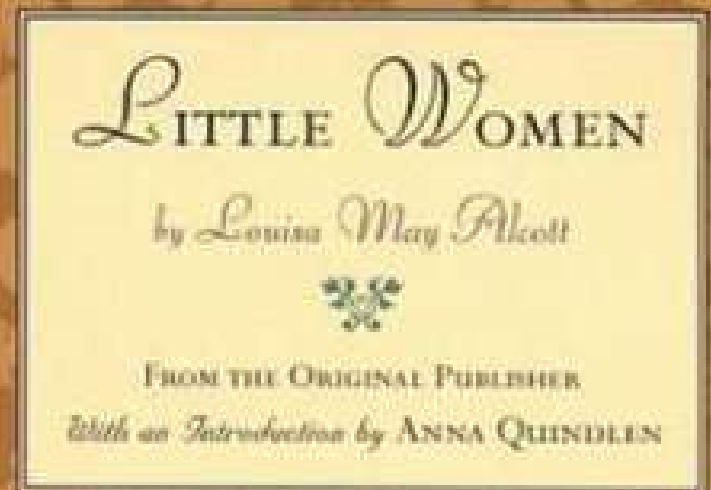
This person was told by an editor that she could never write anything that had popular appeal.

Louisa May Alcott

was told by an editor that she would never write anything popular.



Little Women is considered one of the the best American children's books of the past 200 years.



Guess Who?

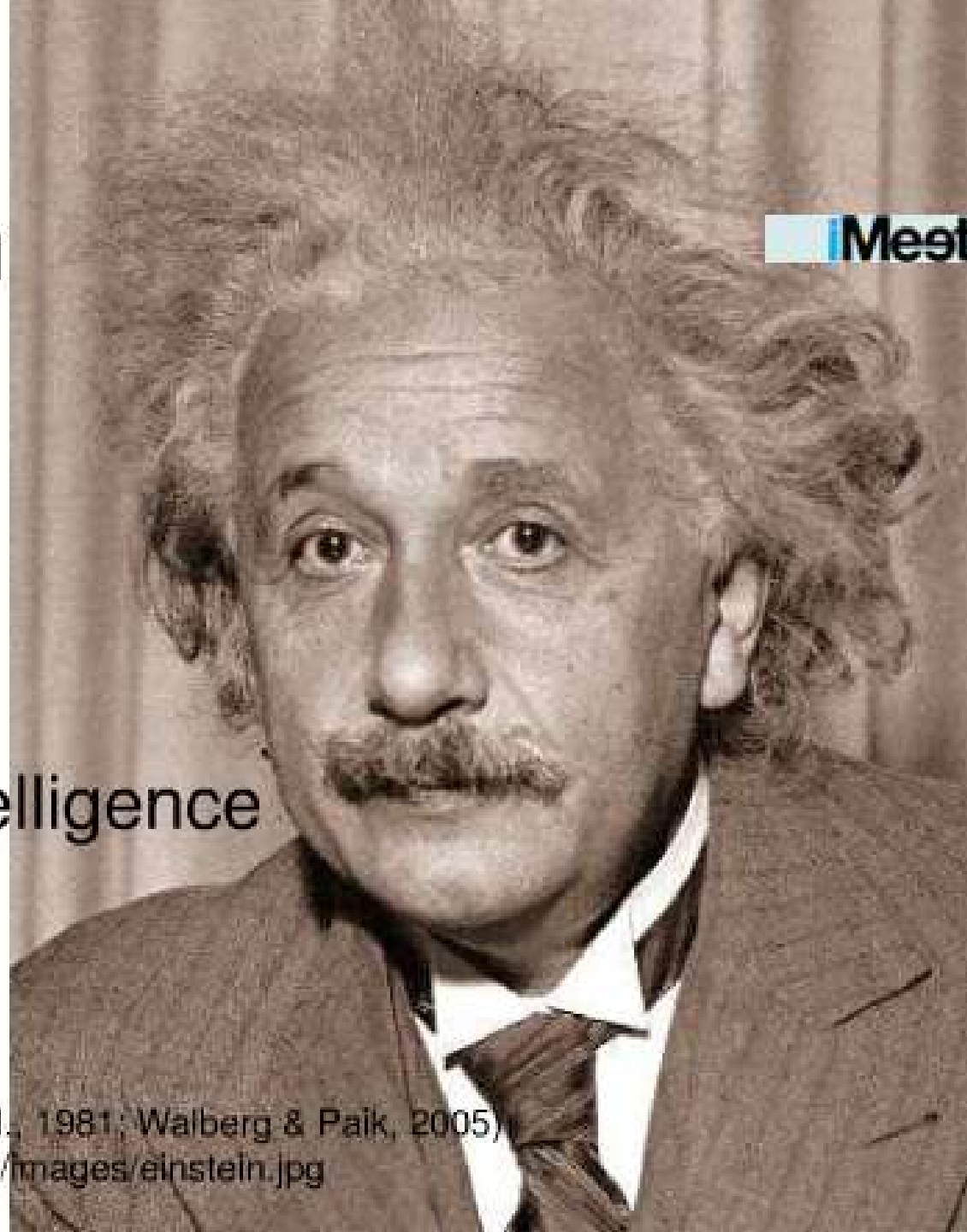
This person was four years old before he could speak and seven before he could read. He was considered dull by both his parents and his teachers.

Albert Einstein

Above average intelligence

(Cox, 1926; Reis, 1995; Walberg et. al., 1981; Walberg & Paik, 2005)

Image: <http://streams.gandhiserve.org/images/einstein.jpg>



Guess Who?

This man was fired by a newspaper editor because he didn't have enough good ideas.



Walt Disney

This man was fired by a newspaper editor because he didn't have enough good ideas.

Pre-assessment Discussion and Reflection Questions

What do you already know about gifted education?

- 1. What are some characteristics of gifted students?*
- 2. How is the instruction in a gifted class different from the instruction in an advanced or honors class?*
- 3. How is a student identified as gifted in your division?*
- 4. How might assessments need to be different in a class for gifted students?*
- 5. What are some reasons that gifted students might become underachievers?*
- 6. In what ways might the social/emotional needs of gifted students influence their classroom performance?*
- 7. What are some of the research-based best practices for differentiation of instruction for gifted students?*
- 8. What is intelligence? What does it mean to be “gifted”?*

Please rate the following statements:

1. Gifted students shouldn't need extra help; they can do fine on their own.

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

2. Teachers challenge all of their students, so gifted kids will be fine in a traditional classroom. They are naturally creative and don't need extra encouragement.

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

3. All children are gifted.

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

4. Acceleration options, such as early entrance, grade skipping, or early exit can be socially harmful for gifted students.

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

5. Gifted education programs are elitist.

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

6. *That student can't be gifted; he's receiving poor grades.*

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

7. *Gifted students are happy, popular, and well-adjusted in school.*

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

8. *That child can't be gifted; he is in special education.*

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

9. *The main difference between gifted students and regular students is that they learn faster and don't need as many repetitions for mastery.*

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

10. *Gifted students need to serve as examples to others, and they should always assume extra responsibility.*

Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree