

The Nonverbal Ability Checklist

Common Behaviors of Learners with High Nonverbal Ability

- Adamant about arranging objects by color, size, or pattern and might re-arrange things over and over.
- Makes insightful comments about art, architecture, or landscapes.
- Loves things for the way they look or are designed.
- Turns objects over and over in hands, mesmerized by them.
- Adds personality to cartoon faces and stick figures.
- Seems to know how others feel even without clear verbal cues.
- Adds colorful flair to artwork and takes an uncommon perspective.
- Comments on whether machines and tools work well or might be improved.
- Enjoys gadgets of all types.
- Often has ideas for new inventions.
- Assembles toys, puzzles, or machines from pictures with little guidance.
- Takes apart things just to see how they are built.
- Asks about how things work.
- Re-assembles and adapts toys or tools.
- Draws lots of maps and diagrams.
- Retains information and details from pictures, movies, and videos.
- Uncanny sense of direction.
- Seems to have own sense of “style” in clothing.
- Uses uncommon items as tools or for functions they were not intended.
- Recognizes subtle color variations and chooses unique combinations.
- Easily sees patterns.
- Builds collections—sometimes of objects with unique or strange attributes.
- While speaking, substitutes gestures or sound effects for words.

**Portable
Gifted &
Talented and
Giftedlearners.org**

