Facts YOU MAY NOT KNOW About Gifted Children

1. It is widely acknowledged that giftedness is an inherent attribute. Although some believe that giftedness can be achieved through nurturing, the overwhelming consensus is that giftedness is present at birth, an inherited trait.

2. Gifted children do not always excel in school. Despite having above-average cognitive abilities, if a gifted child's educational needs are not met appropriately, he may not show exceptional achievement in school.

3. Gifted children can and do have learning disabilities. Gifted children with learning disabilities often go undetected because their advanced cognitive abilities often mask their learning disabilities.

4. Gifted children often develop asynchronously. A buzzing sound which causes irritability and the inability to move on until the sound is located and stopped or the gritty texture in her mom's turkey gravy which causes a gifted teen to refrain from eating the dinner are all examples of OE's. Gifted children can have overexcitabilities (OE's).

5. Gifted children often have difficulty finding like-minded friends. A 12 year old child who understands high school algebra and science, but is unable to sleep at night alone without a nightlight is an example of asynchronous development.

6. Gifted children often feel like they don't fit in. Feelings of isolation and not belonging can eventually lead to emotional struggles, depression, dropping out of school and even suicide.

7. Gifted children are gifted in and out of school. Life with a gifted child can easily come with its share of bumps in the road.

8. Being gifted is not a net-positive situation. Despite the numerous accomplishments, unparalleled social and emotional skills and empathy, being gifted is not a guarantee that any child has it made and will be successful in life.

9. Raising a gifted child is not easy. Given the educational considerations, overexcitabilities and social struggles, life with a gifted child can also be home.