

## 8 Great Smarts: How Are Children Smart and Why Does it Matter?

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- 1. Word Smart.** They think with: \_\_\_\_\_ When excited, they: \_\_\_\_\_  
Children who are particularly smart in this area can argue, persuade, entertain, and/or instruct effectively through the spoken word. They're often trivia experts. They tend to be masters of literacy: they read a lot, write clearly, listen intently, and/or speak well.
  
- 2. Logic Smart.** They think with: \_\_\_\_\_ When excited, they: \_\_\_\_\_  
Traits of logically inclined children include the ability to reason, sequence, categorize, and think in terms of cause-effect and comparison-contrast relationships.
  
- 3. Picture Smart.** They think with: \_\_\_\_\_ When excited, they: \_\_\_\_\_  
Children who are picture smart are very sensitive to visual details. They have the ability to observe, transform, and re-create different aspects of the visual-spatial world.
  
- 4. Music Smart.** They think with: \_\_\_\_\_ When excited, they: \_\_\_\_\_  
Musically gifted children are able to hear, appreciate, and/or produce rhythms and melodies. They often have a good ear, can sing in tune, keep time to music, and listen to different musical selections with some degree of discernment.


5. **Body Smart.** They think with: \_\_\_\_\_ When excited, they: \_\_\_\_\_  
The evidence of body intelligence can be seen in large motor and/or small motor skills and interests. These children are talented in controlling their body movements and/or in handling objects skillfully. They may enjoy physical pursuits like walking, sports, dancing, acting, or camping and/or they may be skilled at activities like sewing, carpentry, or model-building.
6. **Nature Smart.** They think with: \_\_\_\_\_ When excited, they: \_\_\_\_\_  
Children who would rather be outdoors than indoors may be strong in this smart. They tend to love animals and are knowledgeable about them. They also are skilled at recognizing and classifying plants, minerals, and animals. The ability to recognize cultural artifacts like cars or sneakers may also depend on this smart.
7. **People Smart.** They think with: \_\_\_\_\_ When excited, they: \_\_\_\_\_  
Children with this intelligence are able to discern and then respond to the moods, intentions, and desires of others. Therefore, they tend to be leaders. They have the ability (for good or bad) to get inside another person and view the world from that individual's perspective.
8. **Self Smart.** They think with: \_\_\_\_\_  
When excited, they: \_\_\_\_\_  
Children strong in this smart can use their self-understanding to enrich and guide their lives. They tend to enjoy quiet times of deep soul-searching. They are fiercely independent, highly goal-directed, and intensely self-disciplined.

#### Selected References

- Hollenbeck, T. (2021). *8 Great Smarts for Homeschoolers: A Guide to Teaching Based on Your Child's Unique Strengths*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.
- Koch, K. (2016). *8 Great Smarts: Discover and Nurture Your Child's Intelligences*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.
- Also, go to our website, [www.CelebrateKids.com](http://www.CelebrateKids.com), to learn about our other multiple intelligence products.

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