

TALENT IDENTIFICATION AND NURTURANCE

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Talent: Some Aspects

- Talent is universally distributed; not confined to any particular section or any specified areas of human endeavour
- Spread over a wide spectrum of knowledge domains
- Also sports, visual arts, performing arts (dance, drama)
- Early identification of talent vital; born talented; prodigies
- Sustained nurturance essential

Section 29(2): RTE Act 2009

- “Building up child’s knowledge, potentiality and talent”
- “Development of physical and mental abilities to the fullest extent”

Talent Identification

- Keen observation of the learner
- Respect for individuality of the learner
- Sustained inputs for reforming teaching-learning processes

Enabling Environment for Talent Nurturance

- Learning through activities, discovery and exploration in a learner-friendly and learner-centered manner
- Constructivist paradigm for curriculum transaction
- Interactive learning environment
- Overcoming rigidities of prescriptive curriculum

- Encouraging divergent thinking
- Application of knowledge in unfamiliar situations
- Spirit of inquiry
- Courage to question
- Creativity
- Objectivity
- Problem solving
- Decision making
- Aesthetic sensibility

Factors Inhibiting Flowering of Talent

- Authoritarian teacher
- Too much commitment to prescriptive curriculum
- Imposition of parental aspirations on children
- Lack of provision for evaluating accelerated learning

- Scope for preferential learning in the areas of individual interest
- Knowledge treated by the teacher as 'given' embedded in the curriculum and accepted without question
- Little scope for students to learn from their own experiences
- Evaluation system too information-oriented, excessively quantitative and lacks comprehensiveness

- The present evaluation protocol has no place for evaluating talent and learner's understanding of knowledge and his or her ability to apply the same in unfamiliar situations

The Centrality of the Teacher

- A facilitator, a navigator rather than a dispenser of information
- Understands the techniques and methods of attending to the needs of the gifted learners in a class of diverse learning abilities

Some Talent Identification and Nurturance Initiatives

- National Science Talent Search (NCERT)
- National Talent Search (NCERT)
- Search for Rural Talent: The Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas
- Summer Schools for the gifted
- Inspirational interaction with eminent minds

CONTD.

- Participation in national and international Olympiads
- Incentives for innovations
- Children's Science Congress

Contours of Talent Identification

- Scholastic achievement
- Project Execution
- An Essay on an open ended topic
- Mental ability:
 - Verbal reasoning
 - Logical diagrams
 - Analytical reasoning
 - Non-verbal intelligence
 - Quantitative aptitude and data interpretation

THANK YOU