TWICE EXCEPTIONAL
GIFTED STUDENTS WITH LDs

Gifted individuals with specific learning disabilities are the most misjudged, misunderstood, and neglected segment of the student population... (Whitmore & Makek, 1985, p. 264)

Gifted Students
- Exhibit great talent or genius in certain areas and stagnate in others
- Have significant advancement abilities in one or more areas of learning

Students with LDs
- Have difficulty in processing information that our entertainers with voice or voice areas of learning

Why do gifted students with LDs often go unidentified?
- Defenses/deficits/behaviors/attitudes learned
-may be hidden under "unlearned" or "unlearned"

Possible Identifying Traits of Gifted Students with LDs
- Strong analytic comprehension skills
- High verbal expressive ability
- Good conceptual understanding
- Extensive vocabulary
-Sophisticated sense of humor
- Extraordinary interest or talent in a particular area
- Often learn compensatory strategies on their own

Gifted students with LDs may be misdiagnosed with:
- ADD/ADHD
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- Asperger's Syndrome

If misdiagnosed or not identified, gifted students with LDs may experience:
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Disengagement
- Aggression
- Damaged self-esteem

Tips for Educators
- Use strategies that accommodate individual needs
- Teach compensatory strategies
- Give credit for effort and progress

Don’t forget: Gifted and LD are labels that don’t reflect a student’s ability or potential

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