To help a gifted child to turn into succesfull adult: achievements *vs*. hidden potential

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Introduction

It is known that not all gifted children realize their potential in life. Main reasons of this fact could be explained by two mistakes in work with gifted: (1) giftedness identification is based on achievements, but not on a real potential of a child, (2) abilities that correspond giftedness of a particular child can change over time and, as a result, can affect motivation and actual field of preferable area of work.

Purpose

To analyze lesson learned from implementation of the computer system developed to assess and to predict field(s) of the most preferable application(s) of children giftedness.

Methods

The computer system was developed to assess, to monitor and to predict field(s) of the most preferable application(s) of children giftedness. Psychological tests were included into the system that evaluated an individual structure of intelligence, information "metabolism", vegetative nerve system balancing as well as strength, lability and functional mobility of nervous system.

Results and discussion

They are discussed results of the system usage to monitor more that 4200 schoolchildren of grades 8 to 11, as well as particular cases: (1) to reveal hidden ability to scientific work, (2) analysis of the intelligence structure of the extremely gifted child who has demonstrated IQ more than 150 being nine years old and experienced to give lectures for students at the university, (3) two cases when children who were graduating from school did not follow recommendations, entered to "wrong" specialty at university and had to left them, (4) three cases when graduated children were recognized as children with high achievements in particular area, have changed preliminary defined future fields according to recommendations after test, recognized that it was right decision (monitored over ten years from school to work after university graduating).

Keywords:
Giftedness identification, intelligence, monitoring, lessons learned