

Teachers, all the way down to kindy and pre-primary, need to be taught about gifted children of all levels. No two children of above age-level ability are the same. These children need to be catered to and extended within the classroom so that they are not bored or known as the 'chatty kid' or thought to be 'away with the fairies' and have their school years go to waste. Too many of these children become disengaged from school in early primary because they simply do not have a teacher that recognises the need for extension and engagement, this then leads to under performing and behavioural concerns in high school. It is not enough to extend these children at home when they spend 6 hours a day at school either being taught information and skills they already know or not taught in a way that engages them. Teachers have a difficult job to do but there is no point in catering to those who work below and at age level if we are going to ignore those that work above age level.