

WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS?



Another way to think about what you are good at is to figure out how you are smart. Everyone is smart in different ways. You could be good with words, numbers, pictures, athletics, or music. You might have a gift for working with people or a special love of nature. Most people are gifted in more than one of these areas, but usually have a couple of areas in which they really shine. And knowing how you shine can lead to the kinds of careers that would most interest you. Use the checklist below to discover the ways you are smart.

WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS?

WORD SMART

CHECK IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES

- I love to read.
- I love telling and hearing stories.
- I write stories or poetry.
- I enjoy learning foreign languages.
- I have a great vocabulary.
- I am good at spelling.
- I enjoy talking about ideas.
- I have a good memory for names and facts.
- I enjoy playing word games like word scrambles, Scrabble, or crossword puzzles.
- I have fun playing with words—puns, tongue twisters, rhymes, or rap.

WORD SMART TOTAL # OF CHECKS _____

MATH SMART

CHECK IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES

- I do math easily in my head.
- I love science, especially doing experiments.
- I think numbers are fascinating.
- I love to organize information on charts.
- I love solving mysteries.
- I enjoy games like chess and checkers.
- I ask a lot of questions about how things work.
- I like discovering how computers work and I use computers for more than playing games.
- I enjoy figuring out riddles or brainteasers.
- I look for patterns in everything, from numbers to facts to nature to human behavior.

MATH SMART TOTAL # OF CHECKS _____

PICTURE SMART

CHECK IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES

- I love working with art materials such as paper, paint, markers, or clay.
- I daydream a lot.
- I think in pictures and easily see objects in my mind.
- I enjoy building things.
- I notice styles, colors, and details of cars, clothes, hairstyles, bikes, furniture, packaging, and other everyday things.
- I draw and doodle a lot.
- I learn better from pictures, maps, charts, and slides than from books.
- I am good at reading maps and finding my way around unfamiliar places.

I enjoy doing puzzles and mazes.

I like taking things apart and putting them back together.

PICTURE SMART TOTAL # OF CHECKS _____

MUSIC SMART

CHECK IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES

- I enjoy singing.
- I enjoy listening to music.
- I play an instrument.
- I easily remember melodies and tunes.
- I make up or write my own songs or raps.
- I sing to myself when thinking or doing tasks.
- I always notice sounds around me, like birds singing, rain falling, clocks ticking, traffic, construction, and other sounds in daily life.
- I can always tell when music sounds off-key.
- I can read music.
- I can hear the different instruments when listening to music.

MUSIC SMART TOTAL # OF CHECKS _____

BODY SMART

CHECK IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES

- I always look forward to physical education class.
- I like to move around and be active.
- I learn physical skills quickly and easily.
- I do well in one or more sports.
- I love doing things like mechanics, carpentry, hair braiding, sewing,





typing, or working with clay or other things I can do with my hands.

- ⟨ ⟩ I like to act in plays.
- ⟨ ⟩ I am good at imitating the way other people move and talk.
- ⟨ ⟩ I move, tap, or fidget while I think, study, or read.
- ⟨ ⟩ I am a good dancer.
- ⟨ ⟩ I enjoy karate, bike riding, cheer-leading, skate boarding, ice/roller skating, gymnastics, surfing, rock climbing, or other physical hobbies.

BODY SMART TOTAL # OF CHECKS _____

PEOPLE SMART

CHECK IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES

- ⟨ ⟩ I make friends easily.
- ⟨ ⟩ I always offer help or give advice when someone needs it.
- ⟨ ⟩ I am always organizing activities for my friends and me.
- ⟨ ⟩ I like to volunteer for causes that help other people.
- ⟨ ⟩ I enjoy group activities and lively conversations.
- ⟨ ⟩ I can guess how people are feeling just by looking at them.
- ⟨ ⟩ I know how to get people excited about working together on various projects.
- ⟨ ⟩ I prefer to study and play with others rather than by myself.
- ⟨ ⟩ I am good at helping friends resolve conflicts.
- ⟨ ⟩ I like to tutor other classmates or younger brothers and sisters.

PEOPLE SMART TOTAL # OF CHECKS _____

NATURE SMART

CHECK IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES

- ⟨ ⟩ I like animals.
- ⟨ ⟩ I am good at growing plants.
- ⟨ ⟩ I care about recycling, animal protection, saving the oceans or the rain forests, reducing litter, and other nature and environmental causes.
- ⟨ ⟩ I like going to parks, zoos, and aquariums.
- ⟨ ⟩ I enjoy taking care of pets either at home or in the classroom.
- ⟨ ⟩ I notice trees, squirrels, clouds, nests, plants, rock formations, and other parts of nature whenever I am outside.
- ⟨ ⟩ I like to learn about plants, animals, volcanoes, weather, the ocean, the environment, or other subjects about nature.
- ⟨ ⟩ I like to collect leaves, bugs, rocks, seashells, feathers, or other objects found in nature.
- ⟨ ⟩ I sometimes think I can relate to animals as well as or better than I relate to people.
- ⟨ ⟩ I can recognize and name many kinds of plants and animals.

NATURE SMART TOTAL # OF CHECKS _____

RESULTS |

WHAT I COULD BE?

Now that you have figured out some of the ways that you are smart, use that information to think about career options. The chart below has some suggestions to get you started. The section(s) with the highest total score(s) are your areas of natural strength and interest!

Word Smart | advertiser, journalist, librarian, poet, radio or TV announcer, web editor, lawyer, movie script writer, public speaker, English teacher, author, talk show host, translator, etc.

Math Smart | accountant, astronaut, chemist, computer programmer, forensic scientist, automotive design, inventor, mathematician, software engineer, pharmacist, science teacher, video game designer, etc.

Picture Smart | computer animator, graphic designer, artist, architect, fashion designer, cartoonist, movie director, photographer, map maker, urban planner, web developer, airline pilot, interior decorator, etc.

Body Smart | physical therapist, auto mechanic, dancer, sculptor, actor, physical education teacher, construction worker, athlete, surgeon, choreographer, dentist, sign language translator, computer repairer, etc.

Music Smart | audio-video technician, music critic, singer, music therapist, song writer, musician, sound engineer for recording studio, music teacher, speech and hearing therapist, TV broadcast technician, movie sound effects artist, composer, music producer, etc.

People Smart | manager, business person, counselor, social worker, training specialist, politician, police officer, researcher of human origins, clergy person, nurse, school principal, college admissions officer, etc.

Nature Smart | astronomer, veterinarian, environmental scientist, bug scientist, wildlife illustrator, ocean scientist, environmental lawyer, volcano scientist, forest management specialist, plant scientist, agricultural engineer, zoo keeper, weather scientist, etc.

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