

Joyful Music, Joyful Learning – 8 Ways to Learn!

by Sharla Dance

What kind of learner are you?

What kinds of learners are your children?

(We are generally a mix of three or so of the following...)

1. **Word Smart** — Verbal/Linguistic Intelligence

This learner needs to say, hear, and see words.

We use this intelligence for storytelling, conversations, putting thoughts down on paper, writing letters, creating poetry, using humor, creating puns, understanding plays on words, creating metaphors, using grammar and syntax in both. speaking and writing, reading instructions, listening to lectures, reading a book, speaking in front of people.

2. **Logic & Math Smart** — Logical/Mathematical Intelligence

This learner needs to explore patterns, relationships, and categories in an organized, controlled way.

We use this intelligence for problem solving, finding connections between separate pieces of information, making lists, setting priorities, organizing, counting change at the grocery, scientific thinking, analysis, performing complex calculations, recognizing patterns.

3. **Picture Smart** — Visual/Spatial Intelligence

This learner needs to learn visually through color, images, and pictures.

We use this intelligence for daydreaming, imagining, decorating a room, drawing pictures, reading a map, interpreting a sewing pattern or house blueprint, visualizing things we want in life, being aware of the shapes and sizes in our surroundings, recognizing different shapes of cars, inventing new machines.

4. **Body Smart** — Bodily Kinesthetic Intelligence

This learner needs to touch, manipulate things, experience things with the body, and move the body.

We use this intelligence for playing the piano by feel, typing without looking at the keyboard, riding a bike, catching an object, maintaining balance while walking, role playing, sports, dancing, conveying silent messages through body language, brushing teeth, buttoning a shirt, having “gut” feelings.

5. **Music Smart** — Musical/Rhythmical Intelligence

This learner needs beat, rhythm, melody, musical form, and musical harmony.

We use this intelligence for humming a jingle from the radio, using different tones of voice to communicate fear, intense joy, excitement, or loss, expressing deep religious or patriotic feelings, cutting with scissors, performing the rhythmic movement of a highly refined athletic ability, dancing, reading out loud, hammering, skipping, listening to different bird calls, listening to and performing music, singing hymns, creating little tunes.

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6. People Smart — Interpersonal Intelligence

This learner needs to relate with others, cooperate, and have interaction with other people to learn best.

We use this intelligence for working with a partner, organizing a group of people to accomplish a task, listening empathetically, enjoying relationships with other people, understanding how another person feels, nurturing another person's growth, contributing to a group effort.

7. Self Knowledge — Intrapersonal Intelligence

This learner needs time to themselves, needs to work alone on self motivated projects, and needs to have time to think about themselves in relationship to the surrounding world.

We use this intelligence for reflecting on self, writing in a journal, feeling spiritual promptings, sensing who we are in the huge scheme of things, dreaming about unrealized potential, praying, meditating, sensing mood swings in self, sensing peak output times in self, sensing inner needs and recognizing the emotions we feel within ourselves.

8. Earth Smart — Naturalist/Outdoor Intelligence

This learner needs hands on interaction with nature and the out-of-doors

We use this intelligence for camping, bug collecting, scouting, hiking, classifying nature, bird watching, gardening, fishing, observing nature, catching frogs and insects, rock climbing, watching a sunset.