Traits Exhibited by Many Fifteen to Eighteen-Year Olds

All children develop differently, but you may notice the following traits as your child attends Tenth, Eleventh, or Twelfth Grades.

--Want to earn money for independence and freedom
--Desire increased responsibility
--Need to be treated as young adults
--Occasionally revert to childish behavior
--Are very critical of self
--Seek prestige and belonging to the power group
--Are able to concentrate and specialize in selected skills and interests
--Have expansive and changing ambitions
--Are encountering a conflict between idealism and materialism
--Develop crushes with depth of feeling
--Tend to cover own weaknesses with similar weaknesses of the group

This year your child will learn to:

Self-Directed Learning

--Follow school and classroom rules
--Use self-control
--Show respect for others
--Work to solve own problems
--Work cooperatively with others
--Work independently to a greater degree as the school year progresses
--Use time productively
--Make plans and organize before working
--Work quietly when directed
--Complete work in a timely manner
--Evaluate own work

All English Language Arts Courses

--Use language to convey appropriate message
--Listen when others are speaking
--Contribute ideas to discussions
--Analyze literature in terms of character, plot, setting, conflict, theme
--Make predictions about a variety of texts
--Read self-selected books for information and enjoyment
--Compare and contrast authors, genre, or like literature selections
--Support opinions with factual information
--Recognize the use of slanted language used to present a particular view
--Read a variety of genre: short stories, plays, novels, poetry
--Write well developed and organized paragraphs
--Write stories, personal thoughts, letters, essays, research reports, poetry or react to reading
--Orally summarize fiction and non-fiction after reading
--Know and apply the uses of punctuation
--Apply knowledge of parts of speech, subject-verb agreement, and verb tense
--Recognize that words may have different contextual meanings
--Present oral reports and speeches
--Understand the importance of word choice in conveying a message and relating to an audience
--Develop note-taking skills
--Spell most words correctly
--Self-assess writing according to the 6-Traits model
--Use writing process to plan and create written work
--Increase written and spoken vocabulary
--Use computers to organize and communicate information

English 10

--Skim and scan for information
--Write English/Biology research paper
--Use correct reference citations in body and bibliography
--Create magazines to entertain, inform, and persuade

--Write memos
--Understand plagiarism and copyright infringement
--Read classic and contemporary literature (Julius Caesar, To Kill a Mockingbird, Twelve Angry Men, and other self-selected authors)
--Connect literature selections to history, culture, and personal experiences

English Skills 10

--Skim and scan for information
--Write summaries
--Write English/Biology research paper
--Correctly cite sources, showing understanding of plagiarism
--Read classic and contemporary literature (King Arthur legend, William Saroyan)
--Study the history of English (Greek & Latin roots) and apply to vocabulary studied
--Read at least one novel as a class
--Develop skills in practical reading and writing

All Math Courses

--Apply common sense and probability of result to all work
--Understand how math is essential in real life including career choices
--Compare real numbers
--Understand and use ratios, proportions, percents, rates of change
--Manipulate numbers and compute using appropriate operations
-- Explain orally and in writing numerical operations and procedures
--Use technology to carry out computations
--Use geometric models to describe relationships and solve problems
--Use appropriate measurement tools
--Measure using estimation and reasoning
--Know and use geometric formulas
--Read and use data in graphs and tables

Algebra B

--Understand and use inequalities
--Understand and use systems of equations
--Multiply monomials and polynomials
--Factor expressions
--Graph quadratic functions
--Solve quadratic and exponential equations
--Simplify rational expressions
--Use the Pythagorean Theorem
--Simplify and solve radical expressions
--Find the distance between two points

Algebra 1

--Simplify expressions using number properties and combining like terms
--Know and use the definition of an exponent n, either positive or negative
--Know that a non-zero number to the zero power is one
--Understand and use negative and positive numbers and even and odd powers
--Be able to multiply exponents
--Convert decimal numbers to and from scientific notation
--Use a scientific calculator
--Maintain equivalence of an equation throughout number operations
--Expand binomials
--Factor expressions
--Interpret geometrical problems and put in equation form
--Know the concept of slope
--Understand and use a function
--Use proportion to calculate for an unknown quantity
--Calculate frequencies
--Solve quadratic equations
--Solve linear equations
--Solve equations with more than one variable
--Understand sine, cosine, and tangent ratios
--Understand the properties of triangles

Geometry

--Classify angles
--Use and understand perpendicular lines and planes
--Construct indirect and direct proofs
--Understand congruent angles
--Classify triangles
--Classify polygons
--Understand similarity of proportion
--Use square roots
--Use the Pythagorean Theorem
--Understand and use circles, segments, and arcs
--Figure surface area of prisms, cylinders, cones, spheres
--Calculate and graph slope of lines

Algebra 2

--Creating graphical solutions of simultaneous equations
--Understand and use scientific notation
--Understand and use radicals
--Understand and use roots of quadratic equations including complex roots
--Understand properties of real numbers
--Understand and use advanced factoring
--Understand inequalities and systems of inequalities
--Understand and use logarithms and antilogarithms
--Understand and calculate conic sections
--Calculate using exponential equations
--Understand and use basic trigonometric functions
--Understand and apply the algebra of polynomials
--Understand vectors in polar and rectangular form
--Understand and interpret algebraic word problems
--Understand matrices and use matrices to solve problems

Biology

--Identify chemical reactions related to physical functions and environmental changes
--Understand single and multi-celled organisms
--Understand how cells differentiate and self-regulate
--Understand and explain theories of molecular and genetic heredity
--Understand the theory of evolution, natural selection and biological classification
--Explain how species have changed and how species have attained diversity
--Explain how organisms cooperate and compete in the ecosystem
--Understand the impact of energy on organisms in living systems
--Devise a scientific solution to a community or environmental problem
--Know how cultures and individuals have contributed to scientific knowledge
--Understand the scientific method of observation, investigation, data collection, and hypothesis
--Describe how science has expanded human knowledge and application of genetics

Global Studies

--Understand that social studies involves the study of history, geography, political science, economics, peoples, cultures, and social sciences such as anthropology, sociology, and psychology
--Use atlases, maps, and globes to locate regions and collect data
--Construct mental maps, recalling major physical features
--Understand that environment affects people and culture
--Understand that history affects the present and future conditions of cultures, people and countries
--Learn about important people and their contributions to history and/or the present
--Understand different cultures or eras and the corresponding political systems
--Research a topic and present relevant data and conclusions to the class or teacher
--Participate in group projects
--Present information orally and in writing
--Contribute to discussions with relevant information and opinions
-- Identify diverse belief systems around the world
--Be able to discuss the implications of industrialization, urbanization, and population growth
--Learn about basic human rights across the globe

Information and Technology

--Use software to organize thoughts for written work
--Keyboard accurately at 30-45 wpm
--Use scanner, digital camera, and other digital equipment
--Produce work processing documents, spreadsheets, databases, PowerPoint, and drawing products
--Use various web browsers to modify and focus web searches

--Transfer graphics, pictures, and video clips into student-made documents
--Choose appropriate library materials
--Care properly for library materials and equipment
--Use a variety of library resource materials
--Demonstrate note-taking skills
--Demonstrate proper citation of resource materials used
--Learn to assess one´s own progress and quality of work