



## How We Think and Learn

# Introduction to Multiple Intelligences

**People are smart in many different ways. The concept of IQ as a way to define intelligence is so last century. The idea that you can determine a person's intelligence based solely on logical and analytic skills is just wrong.**

- So says Dr. Howard Gardner and increasing numbers of educators and psychologists.
- They state that people have “multiple intelligences.”
- Understanding what these are and how they work can help people take advantage of their unique skills.

The concept of multiple intelligences has been around since 1983, when Howard Gardner first introduced the idea. It is fairly obvious that people are smart in many ways. However, no one before had worked through a way of describing these smarts the way Gardner did.

There has been a lot of research in the past decade to see how his ideas might be used to improve teaching and learning. Evidence shows that if teachers and students engage their multiple intelligences, learning on all levels improves.

The Multiple Intelligences model of learning seeks to build on students' strengths in multiple areas to help them become better learners. For students to take advantage of their multiple intelligences, it is important for them understand how they are smart.

Eight types of intelligence have been identified by Gardner and others. More will probably be identified in the future. The following page describes each of these intelligences. Which do you think most apply to you?

## How We Are Smart

# Multiple Intelligences



### 1. Verbal-Linguistic (Word Smart)

Effectively uses words, likes to write and talk

Types of Jobs: Writer, Public Speaker, Storyteller, Salesperson, Editor

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### 2. Logical-Mathematical (Number Smart)

Effectively uses numbers, likes to think through a problem

Types of Jobs: Accountant, Mathematician, Check-out Clerk, Computer Programmer

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### 3. Spatial (Picture Smart)

Thinks in images and pictures

Types of Jobs: Artist, Architect, Interior Designer, Guide, Cab Driver

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### 4. Bodily-Kinaesthetic (Body Smart)

Uses one's body to express ideas and feelings

Types of Jobs: Dancer, Athlete, Craftsperson, Surgeon, Motorcycle Racer

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### 5. Musical-Rhythmic (Music Smart)

Enjoys and responds to music, melody, and rhythm

Types of Jobs: Musician, Singer, Composer, Disk Jockey

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### 6. Interpersonal (People Smart)

Works well with others, a team player

Types of Jobs: Social Worker, Supervisor, Teacher, Coach, Child Care Worker

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### 7. Intrapersonal (Self Smart)

Works well on one's own, self-reflective

Types of Jobs: Therapist, Poet, Philosopher

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### 8. Naturalist (Nature Smart)

Enjoys and has a sense about nature

Types of Jobs: Park Ranger, Cook, Landscaper, Gardner



## How We Are Smart

# Multiple Intelligences Review

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Write in the number of the correct multiple intelligence next to the matching job groupings listed below.



- 1. Verbal-Linguistic (Word Smart)
- 2. Logical-Mathematical (Number Smart)
- 3. Spatial (Picture Smart)
- 4. Bodily-Kinaesthetic (Body Smart)
- 5. Musical-Rhythmic (Music Smart)
- 6. Interpersonal (People Smart)
- 7. Intrapersonal (Self Smart)
- 8. Naturalist (Nature Smart)

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- \_\_\_\_\_ Musician, Singer, Composer, Disk Jockey
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dancer, Athlete, Craftsperson, Surgeon, Motorcycle Racer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Accountant, Mathematician, Check-out Clerk, Computer Programmer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Therapist, Poet, Philosopher
- \_\_\_\_\_ Writer, Public Speaker, Storyteller, Salesperson, Editor
- \_\_\_\_\_ Park Ranger, Cook, Landscaper, Gardner
- \_\_\_\_\_ Artist, Architect, Interior Designer, Guide, Cab Driver
- \_\_\_\_\_ Social Worker, Supervisor, Teacher, Coach, Child Care Worker