

## Introduction

Perhaps one of the greatest pleasures in the life of a child (and in the child in each of us) is to wonder about the hypothetical, the unlikely, the mystical. There is enormous intrinsic enjoyment in the pondering of "what if might be like if. . . ."

*What It Might Be Like If There Were a Tax on Intelligence . . . and 1995 More Activities* invites this joy of wondering into your classroom. This book combines a series of creative tasks with a series of open-ended questions (questions with no single "correct" response, but with a great number of possible answers). The end product is a set of about 2,000 separate activities for use with your students. Because the specific combinations are generally selected by the students, they allow for a variety of interests, encourage independent work, and are as useful to individuals as they are to groups.

## Objectives

*What It Might Be Like If There Were a Tax on Intelligence . . .* was designed to help you meet some of the needs of your gifted students. Among these are the need for gifted students "to be challenged by activities that enable them to operate cognitively and affectively at complex levels of thought and feeling, to be challenged through opportunities for divergent production, and to be challenged through group and individual work [that] demonstrates process/products outcomes" (Van Tassel-Baska, 1979).

## Reference

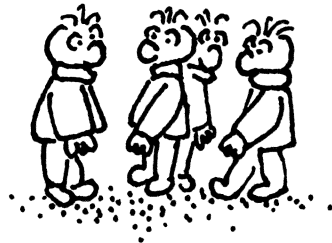
VanTassel-Baska, J. (1979). A needs assessment model for gifted education. *Journal for the Education of the Gifted*, 2(3), 141-148.

## Directions

As you explore this material, you will notice that each page is divided. The upper half contains the beginning of a sentence conveying directions for a process and a product. An example of this is "Choreograph a dance which communicates. . . ." The lower half of the page contains the ending to a sentence and conveys an open-ended situation such as ". . . what it might be like if people had wings."

Separate upper and lower portions of each page as indicated so the top of any page may be "mix 'n' matched" with the bottom of any other page. This match may be made intentionally, or for an even greater challenge, made by flipping two pages at random.

Of course, if the activities presented here are not enough to meet the needs and interests of everyone in your classroom, don't panic. Space has been provided to allow your students to tailor-make their own pages. Feel free to try your hand at this, as well.



**Produce a puppet show or felt board story  
which illustrates . . .**

**1-A**

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**1-B**

**what it might be like if there were a tax on  
intelligence.**

(social studies)

