

Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test

Why did your child take the NNAT3?

Vance Elementary School has been selected to participate as a control school in a teaching model called *Nurturing for a Bright Tomorrow*. As part of this program, students were administered a 30-minute ability test, the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test, Third Edition (NNAT3), last year.

For more information on the Nurturing for a Bright Tomorrow Study in WCPSS, please see <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/education/article10197407.html>

NNAT3 FAQs (https://images.pearsonassessments.com/images/assets/nnat3/LRNAS13714_FAQsforNNAT3Page_print_no-crops.pdf)

What does NNAT stand for? Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test®

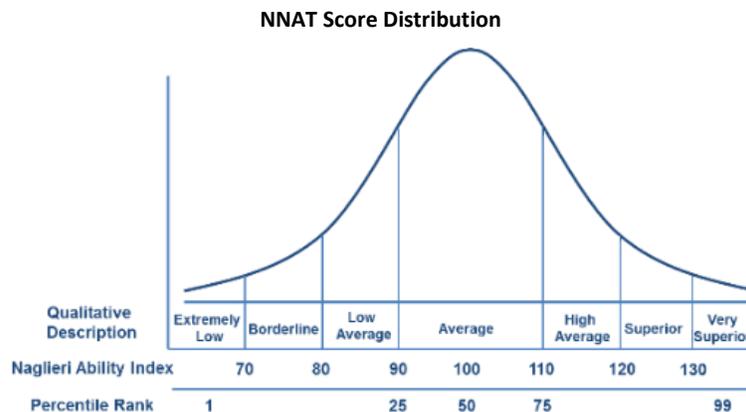
What is the NNAT test? The NNAT test is a nonverbal measure of general ability that yields a norm-based score, helpful in identifying students in K–12 with the potential for advanced scholastic achievement.

What sets NNAT apart from other ability tests? NNAT provides a nonverbal, culturally neutral assessment of general ability that is ideal for use with a diverse student population. The test features pictorial direction and requires no spoken or written language, making it particularly useful for assessing minority students and those who might be English language learners or who may have limited academic skills.

How are Scores Calculated?

Percentile Rank: This score is used to compare the student’s performance to that of a national sample of students of the same age. For example, if a five-year-old student has a percentile rank of 70%, this means the student scored as well or higher than 70% of five-year-old students who were tested nationally. Percentile Rank ranges from 1-99. (25%-75%: Average Range). See graph below to see where your child’s percentile rank falls.

Generally, percentiles are a more descriptive way of understanding how your child did on the exam because they show how he ranked against his entire group of peers. The NNAT3, like many cognitive tests administered to children, is an imperfect assessment measure that can vary greatly depending on a variety of external factors. Thus, while these scores can be important, they should not be taken as the sole measurement of your child's abilities and skills.



<https://www.testprep-online.com/nnat-scores.aspx>

What Does This Test Score Mean for My Child?

As mentioned above, this test is helpful for obtaining an assessment of the cognitive abilities of a student who may have limited proficiency in English or who has had limited opportunities to acquire verbal or quantitative knowledge. Students with high non-verbal scores can often be expected to do well with logic, models, creative thinking, constructions or building, technology, or other non-language based activities. Because the problem-solving skills on a non-verbal test have little direct correlation to most reading, writing, and math instruction, students with high non-verbal scores who have strong aptitudes in this area may not be easily recognized in the classroom.

It is important to help these students with high non-verbal scores continue to develop their verbal and quantitative skills, but also to find ways for them to apply their excellent non-verbal skills. Teachers and parents should encourage the use of graphic organizers and other pictorial ways for students to demonstrate learning (including thinking maps, diagrams, drawings, models, multimedia projects, etc.). It is important to provide opportunities for creative problem solving, finding logical patterns and relationships, as well as using high-level questions and critical thinking activities.

Students with low non-verbal scores may just not have strengths in this area or may have had no previous exposure to pictorial problem solving. They may be “out-thinking” themselves (“well, it could be this, but if you look at it that way, it could be this, or even this...”) or may just not have understood the tasks.

Is It Possible to Improve Nonverbal Intelligence?

Just like with the areas of verbal and quantitative intelligence, we can train our brains to become stronger! Nonverbal intelligence may be improved by working with hands-on tasks like picture puzzles, blocks and building toys, find-a-word puzzles, mazes, and erector sets.

Some ideas include:

- Playing games like spot the difference and Sudoku.
- Developing spatial awareness and understanding of how shapes interconnect with jigsaw puzzles and construction toys like Legos.
- Using a pack of cards to practice addition and subtraction, for example by dealing out five cards and getting your child to add them all together, subtract the smallest number from the largest, and so on.
- Playing math games when out and about, such as asking your child to add together all the numbers from the license plate of the car in front.
- Drawing shapes on a piece of paper and getting your child to draw their mirror image, using a mirror to check the results, or cutting them out and folding them in half to see how they look.
- Memory Match Games
- Building models
- Shape patterns and analogies such as those found at <http://primaryleap.co.uk/primary-resources/Year+1/Reasoning/Non+-+Verbal/>

For more resources and information about the Academically and Intellectually Gifted Program, please visit <http://vanceaig.weebly.com>.