

Skipping a Grade: Reflections of an Accelerated Student
Case Study: Grade Acceleration from Third Grade to Fifth

Our daughter (using an alias) wrote the below case study information. I add only that as parents we advocated for our daughter and initiated the process.

“Natasha is currently a seventh grade 12 year old. She is a very strong visual-kinesthetic learner. Solving strategy problems in and out of school is something she likes to do. Natasha enjoys non-routine problems and reading fiction and non-fiction books. She is very shy with regular students, but is a great leader when she is with other gifted students.

Natasha’s second grade math teacher had her doing work beyond her grade level. In third grade, she was accelerated to fourth grade math. The K-5 elementary school she went to did not have a sixth grade math program. Already accelerated in math, Natasha did not want to repeat fifth grade math the next year. Natasha’s third grade teacher had her work on studyisland.com. The results were that she was achieving sixth grade proficiency in math and reading. The K-5 elementary school she went to did not have a sixth grade math program. Natasha’s standardized tests showed that she was advanced proficient in many subjects.

The IAT process was used in Natasha’s acceleration. Her IAT team was the school psychologist, administrator, guidance counselors, parents and teachers.

Natasha was moved from fourth to fifth grade in elementary school and gifted services. Most of the students knew her from math class. Many of the fifth graders were welcoming. Natasha participated in fifth grade math contest and end of the year events such as the fifth grade farewell.

Since going to middle school, Natasha is still bored sometimes. People noticed that she was not the same age, but she handled it well, though she has many of the same adolescent problems."

We hope this helps other families.