



BRIDGES GRAD SCHOOL
EDUCATING THE EXCEPTIONAL²

Bilingual, Bicultural, and Twice-Exceptional: Struggles and Victories

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Катя Скотт Юля Кирилл



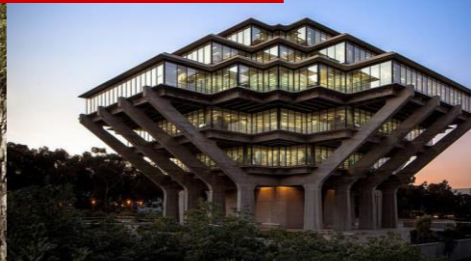


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Katrina Scott Yulia Kirill





My parents' struggles

- Mastery of language

People are often viewed by how they have
mastered the language



My own struggles

- Testing I was used to:
 - Open-response questions
 - Generous time limits
 - Few relatively complex problems
- Testing that was new to me:
 - Multiple choice
 - Time limits
 - Lots of easy problems

<https://pk.cs.msu.ru/sites/default/files/dvi/1996.pdf>

Московский государственный университет имени М.В. Ломоносова
Вступительное испытание по математике 1996 года

Вариант 1 (факультет вычислительной математики и кибернетики, пробный экзамен)

1. Решить неравенство

$$\sqrt{(2x+1)^4 - (2x+1)^2} + (2x+1)^2 \geq 0.$$

2. Решить уравнение

$$\log_{2x+3}(x-2)^2 = \log_{\frac{x}{8} + \frac{1}{2}}(x-2)^2.$$

3. Решить уравнение

$$\sqrt{12 \sin x - \frac{9}{2} \cos 2x + \frac{17}{2}} = \frac{9}{8} + 4 \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \cos^2 x.$$

4. Через центр O вписанной в треугольник ABC окружности проведена прямая, параллельная стороне BC и пересекающая стороны AB и AC соответственно в точках M и N . Периметр треугольника AMN равен $3\sqrt{2}$, длина стороны BC равна $\sqrt{2}$, а длина отрезка AO в три раза больше радиуса вписанной в треугольник ABC окружности. Найти площадь треугольника ABC .

5. Найти все целочисленные решения уравнения

$$14x^4 - 5y^4 - 3x^2y^2 + 82y^2 - 125x^2 + 51 = 0.$$

6. Сфера с центром в точке O проходит через вершины A , B и C треугольной пирамиды $ABCD$ и пересекает прямые AD , BD и CD в точках K , L и M соответственно. Известно, что $AD = 10$, $BC : BD = 3 : 2$ и $AB : CD = 4\sqrt{3} : 11$. Проекциями точки O на плоскости ABD , BCD и CAD являются середины ребер AB , BC и AC соответственно. Расстояние между серединами ребер AB и CD равно 13. Найти периметр треугольника KLM .



My own struggles

- Approach to writing: poetic fiction, not academic / informational

Music Box

One day in autumn, late at night, in an old and echoing house, a glass shimmering ringing was heard, as if someone was striking bells with small hammers, and from this wonderful ringing a melody arose and poured out...

<https://multiurok.ru/files/tieksty-izlozhienii-i-diktantov-po-russkomu-iazyku.html>



My own struggles

- Long division

$$125 \overline{) 5}$$

A) 25

C) 500

B) 0.04

D) -120



My own struggles

- Long division

$$125 \overline{) 5}$$

A) 25

C) 500

B) 0.04

D) -120



My own struggles

- Long division

$$125 \overline{) 5}$$

A) 25

C) 500

~~B) 0.04~~

D) -120



My child's struggles

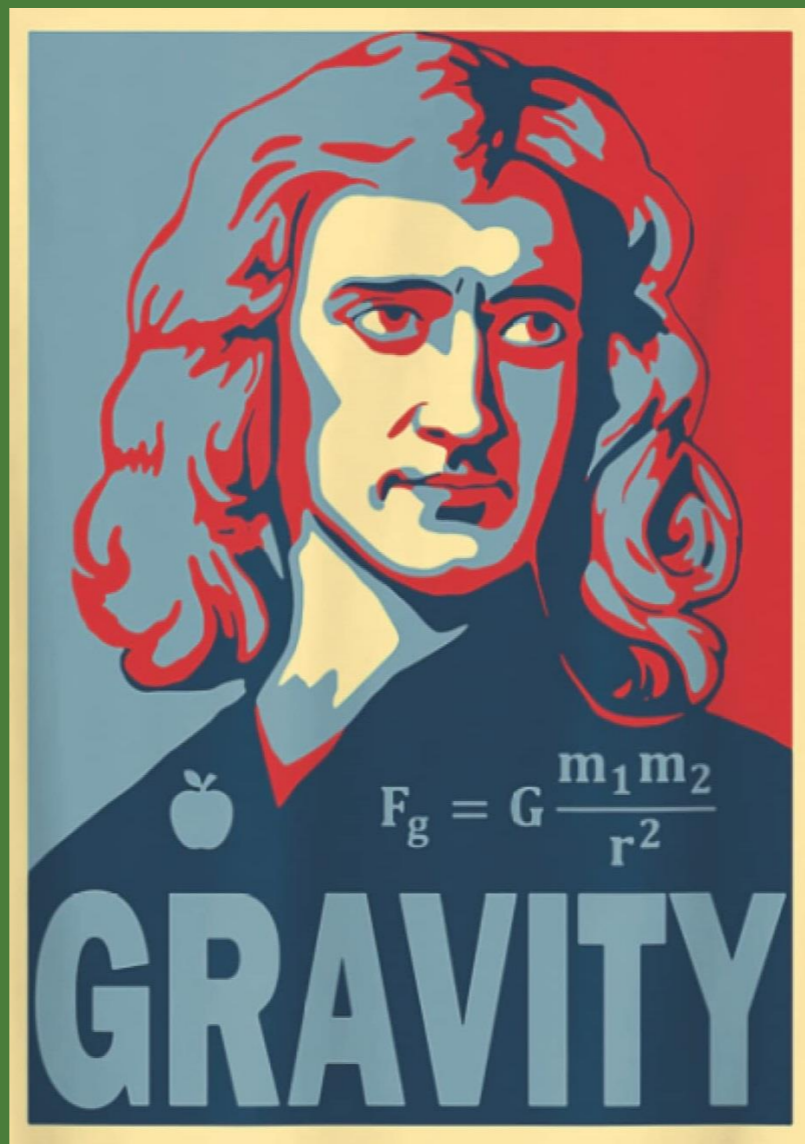
- WISC V

Исаак Ньютон



My child's struggles

- WISC V





My child's struggles

- Seal of Biliteracy Essay Topics (Avant STAMP 4S)

1. Tell us about the advantages and disadvantages of buying a new house versus an old house for renovation.

2. What would you do if you have noisy neighbors?

3. Describe how you can help senior citizens.



My child's struggles

- Bilingualism and dyslexia

1. Distinct languages present different characteristics and demands (Kornev et al., 2010)

2. Culturally and linguistically responsive practices are not used in mainstream environments (Maunsell, 2020)

3. Studies show no negative effects of bilingualism for dyslexia (Vender & Melloni, 2021)

4. Studies present bilingualism as being an advantage for dyslexia (Vender et al., 2021)



Our victories

- My son was awarded the Global Seal of Biliteracy
- He can read Chekhov and Dostoevsky in the original
- He also makes connections to Russian as he is learning Spanish
- Knowing how to read in Russian helped my dyslexic daughter learn how to read in English
- Both can communicate with their grandparents in their native tongue
- Both educate their friends about Russian language and culture





Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study



<https://www.jotform.com/form/233478219641057>



Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

Main goals

- Explore the challenges and benefits of twice-exceptional (2e) Russophone families residing in the United States that they have been experiencing during their child development, in education, during assessments, in the workplace, and in everyday life.
- Bring awareness about these challenges and benefits to the educators, specialists, and other relevant professionals and guide adjustments necessary to better support 2e Russophone families.
- Bring awareness of neurodiversity, giftedness, and twice-exceptionality to all members of the Russophone community.

<https://www.jotform.com/form/233478219641057>





Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

Qualifications to participate

- Adults 18+
- Who are part of a Russophone family
- Residing in the United States

<https://www.jotform.com/form/233478219641057>





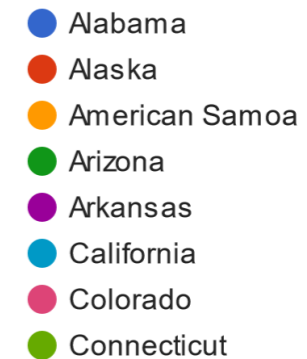
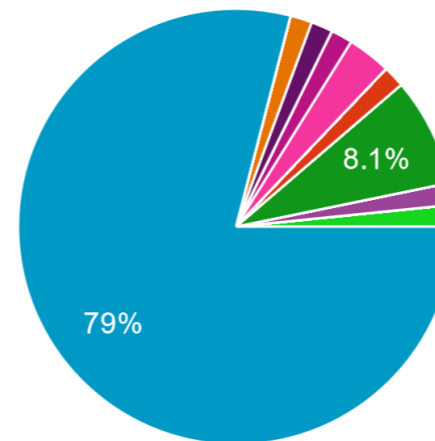
Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

Some stats

- 84 signatures
- 64 responses
- Response rate: $64/84 \times 100\% = 76\%$
- 62 fully qualified responses
 - 49 (79%) from California
 - 5 (8.1%) from New York
 - 2 (3.2%) from Massachusetts
 - 1 (1.6%) from Idaho
 - 1 (1.6%) from Indiana
 - 1 (1.6%) from Maryland
 - 1 (1.6%) from New Jersey
 - 1 (1.6%) from Pennsylvania
 - 1 (1.6%) from Washington

Where in the US do you reside?

62 responses



▲ 1/7 ▼

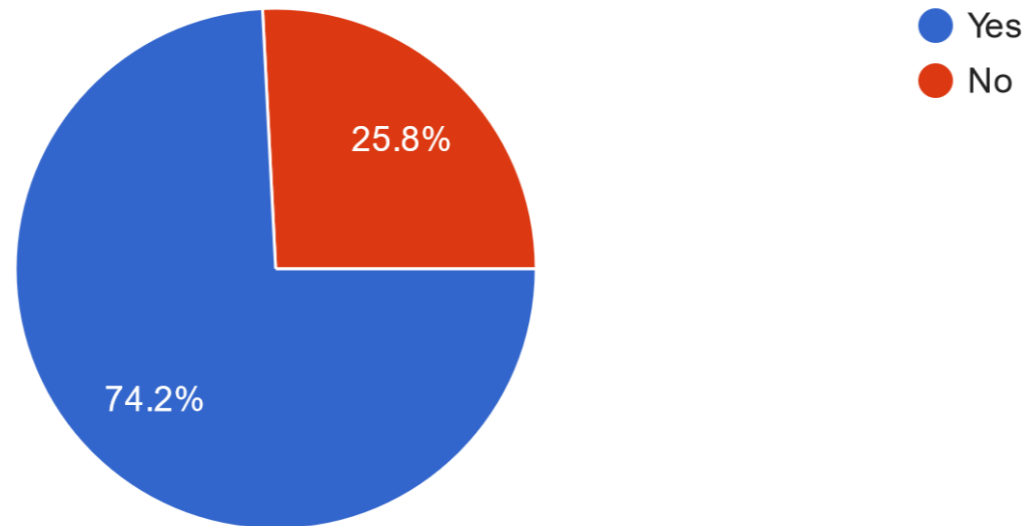




Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

Are you familiar with the terms neurodiversity and neurodivergent?

62 responses



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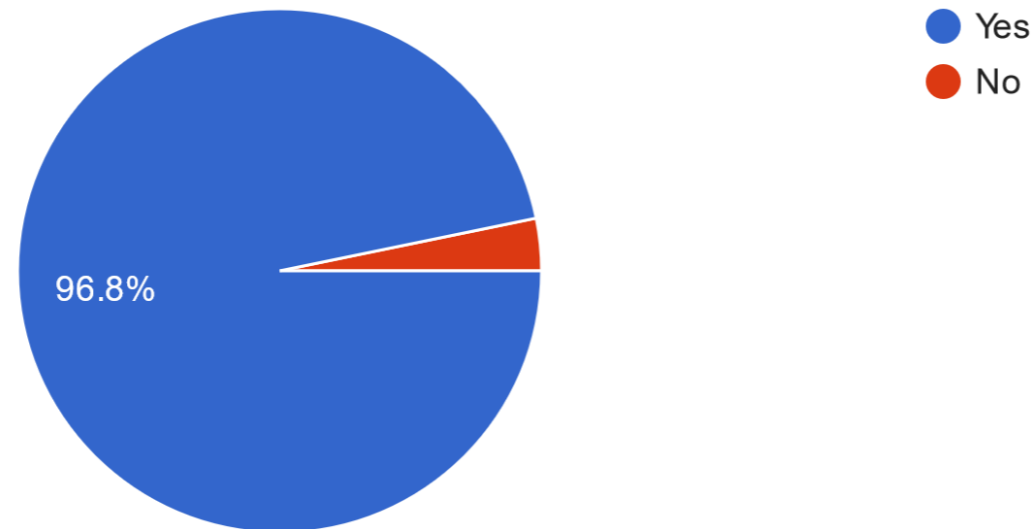




Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

Are you familiar with the term giftedness (some refer to it as high ability or high potential)?

62 responses



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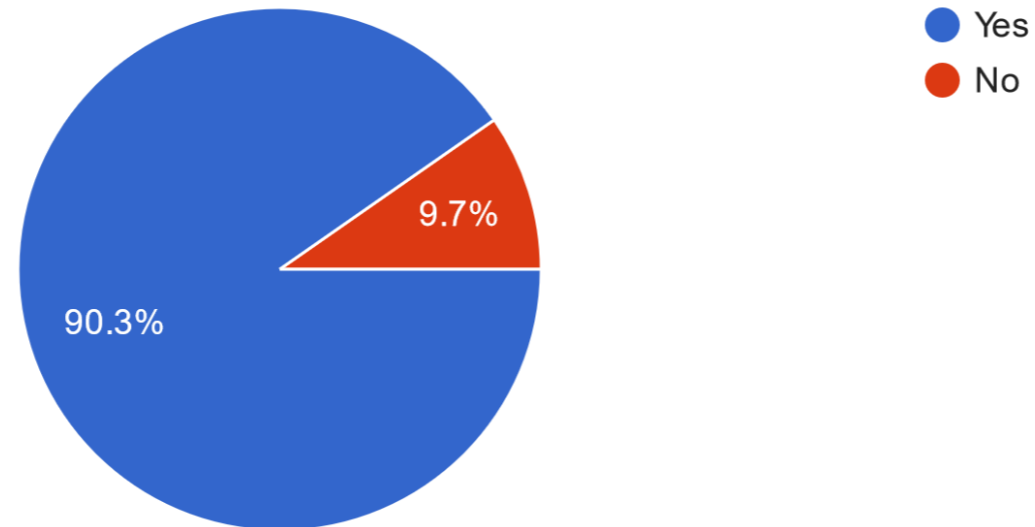




Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

Are you familiar with the term learning difference (some refer to it as learning disability)?

62 responses



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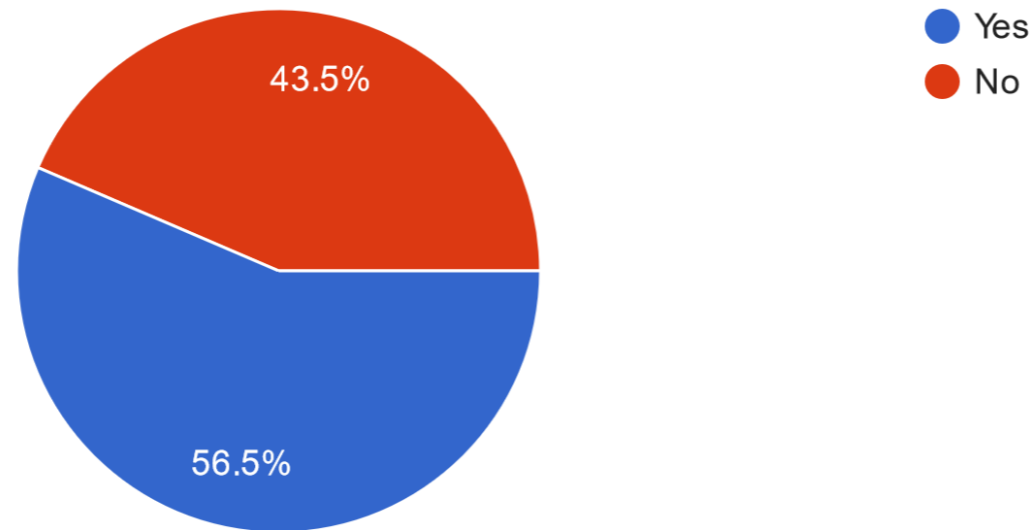




Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

Are you familiar with the term twice-exceptional (some refer to it as 2e)?

62 responses



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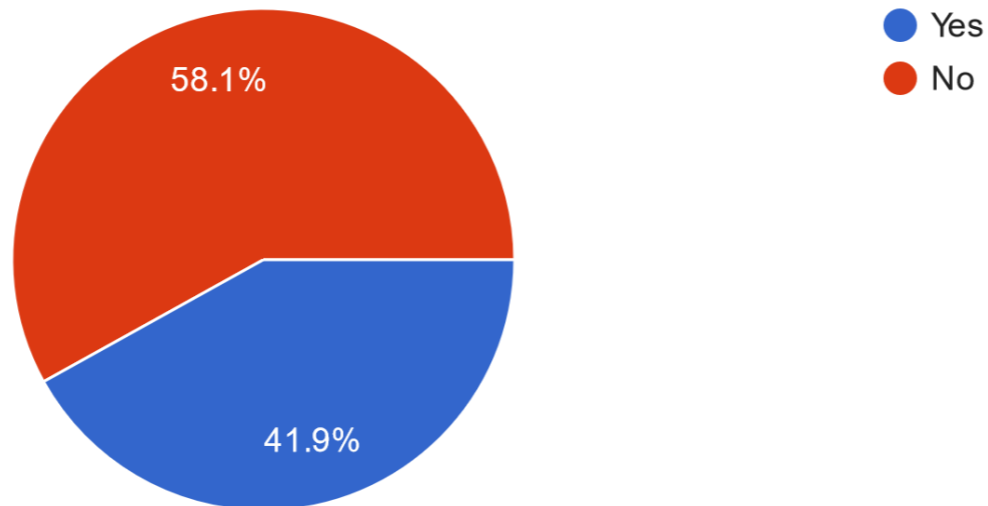




Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

Are either you or your children twice-exceptional? Twice exceptional individuals are both high ability (e.g. gifted) and have learning differences (e.g. autism, dyslexia, ADHD, and others).

62 responses



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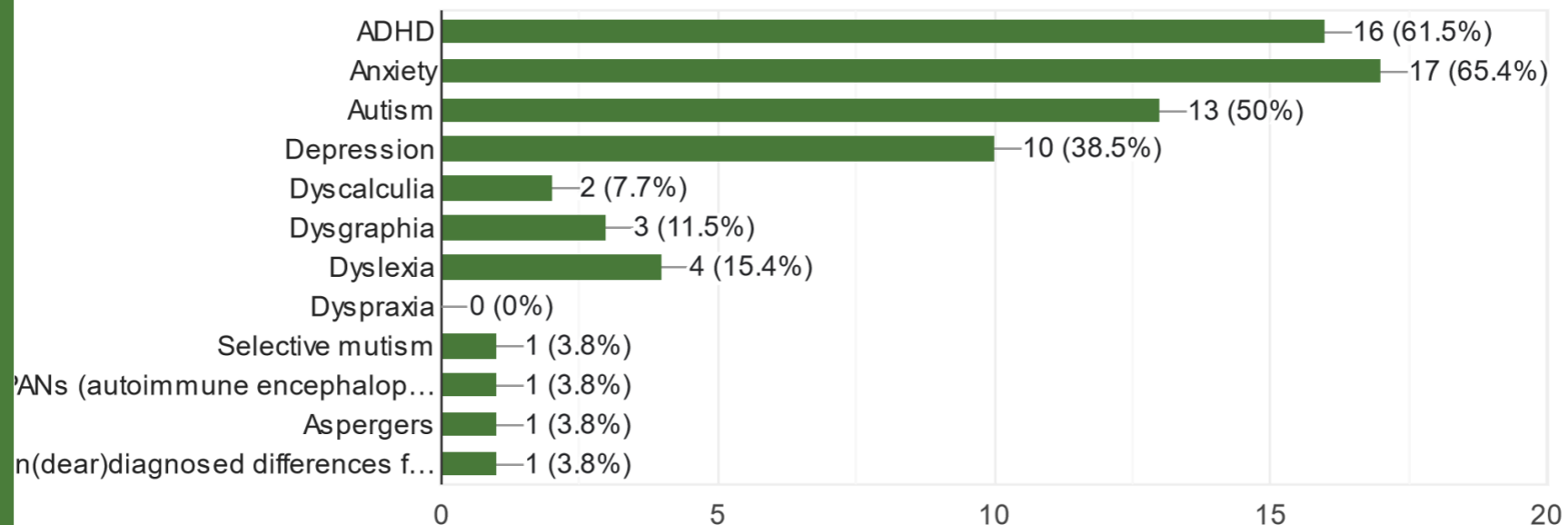




Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

What is the nature of learning differences (or learning disabilities) you and / or your children are experiencing? Feel free to check all that apply. If y...e in the space provided in either English or Russian.

26 responses



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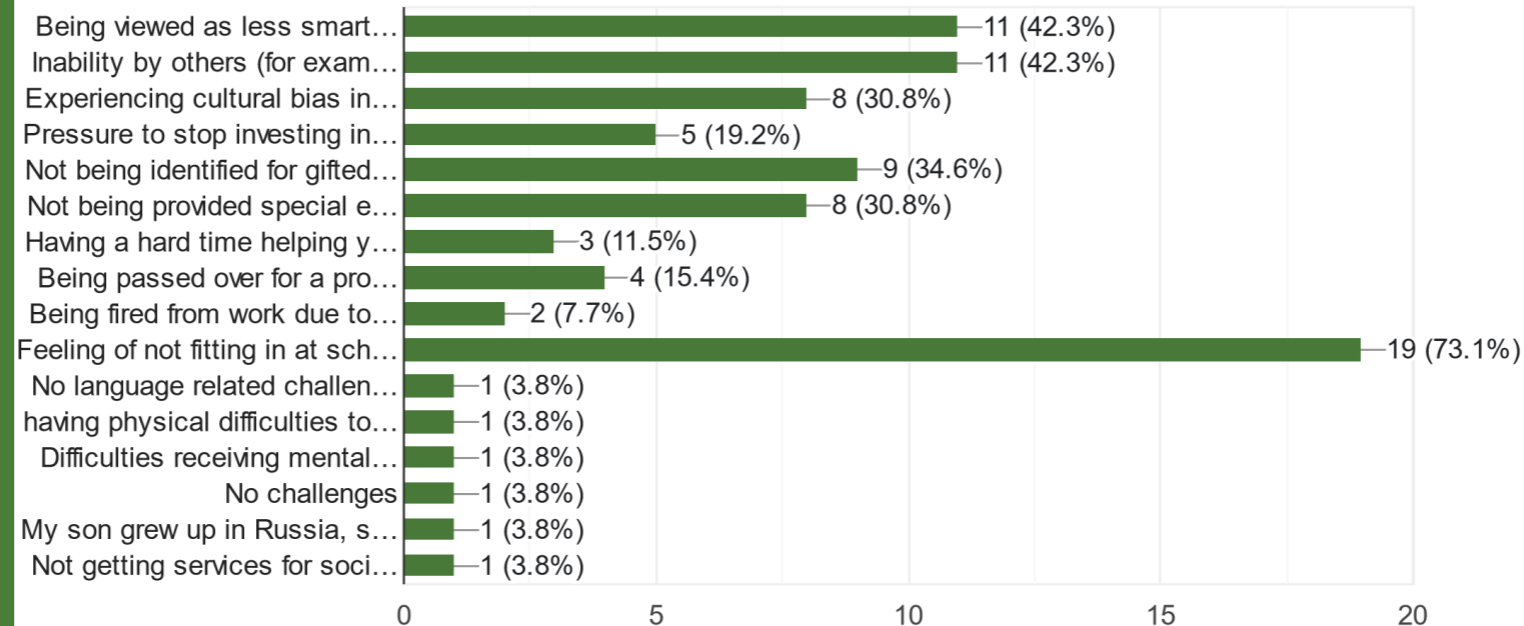




Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

What challenges have you or your children been experiencing during child development, in education, during assessments, in the workplace, an...n the space provided in either English or Russian.

26 responses



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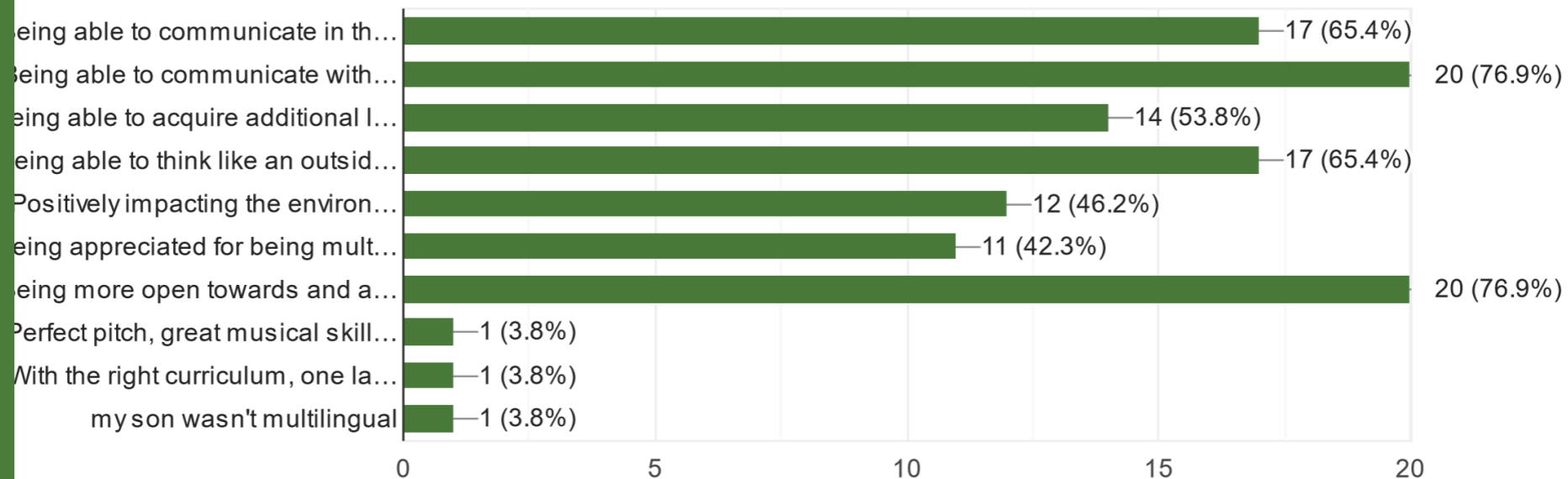




Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

What benefits have you or your children been experiencing during child development, in education, during assessments, in the workplace, and in everyday... the space provided in either English or Russian.

26 responses



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Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

What is the most important change you would like to see implemented for you or your children to be better supported? Please, feel free to provide your response below in either English or Russian.

- School-related

More giftedness and neurodivergence resources and training for teachers

2e specialists on staff at schools, colleges, and universities

Access to school personnel who can communicate with the child and parents in their native language

Flexibility in schooling environment that allows to meet kids where they are at

Schooling with both languages included and native language clubs

<https://www.jotform.com/form/233478219641057>





Experiences of Twice-Exceptional Russophone Families Research Study

What is the most important change you would like to see implemented for you or your children to be better supported? Please, feel free to provide your response below in either English or Russian.

- Other

Access to assessors who can conduct neuropsychological evaluations in the child's native language

Acceptance of non-white Russian-speaking individuals

More information on neurodiversity available in Russian

Free and available psychological support services for 2e families

More resources and support in career transitioning, research, and development

Separation of politics and culture

<https://www.jotform.com/form/233478219641057>





Why should we care?

Thinking like an outsider can:

1. Enhance divergent thinking and cognitive flexibility (Ritter et al., 2012)
2. Have an impact by bringing own customs and ideas to the existing environment (Simonton, 1997)
3. Lead to generation of ideas (Lee et al., 2012)



Why should we care?

“Companies in the top quartile for gender diversity on their executive teams were 21% more likely to experience above-average profitability than companies in the bottom quartile”.

“For ethnic and cultural diversity, the finding was a 33% likelihood of outperformance on [profit] margin”.

<https://www.mckinsey.com/capabilities/people-and-organizational-performance/our-insights/delivering-through-diversity>

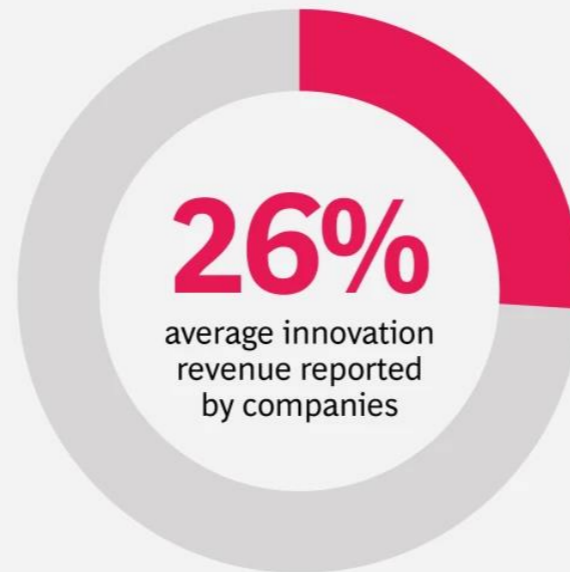


Why should we care?

“Companies that reported above-average diversity on their management teams also reported innovation revenue that was 19 percentage points higher than that of companies with below-average leadership diversity—45% of total revenue versus just 26%. ”

EXHIBIT 1 | Companies with More Diverse Leadership Teams Report Higher Innovation Revenue

Companies with
below-average diversity scores



Companies with
above-average diversity scores



Source: BCG diversity and innovation survey, 2017 (n=1,681).

Note: Average diversity score calculated using the Blau index, a statistical means of combining individual indices into an overall aggregate index.

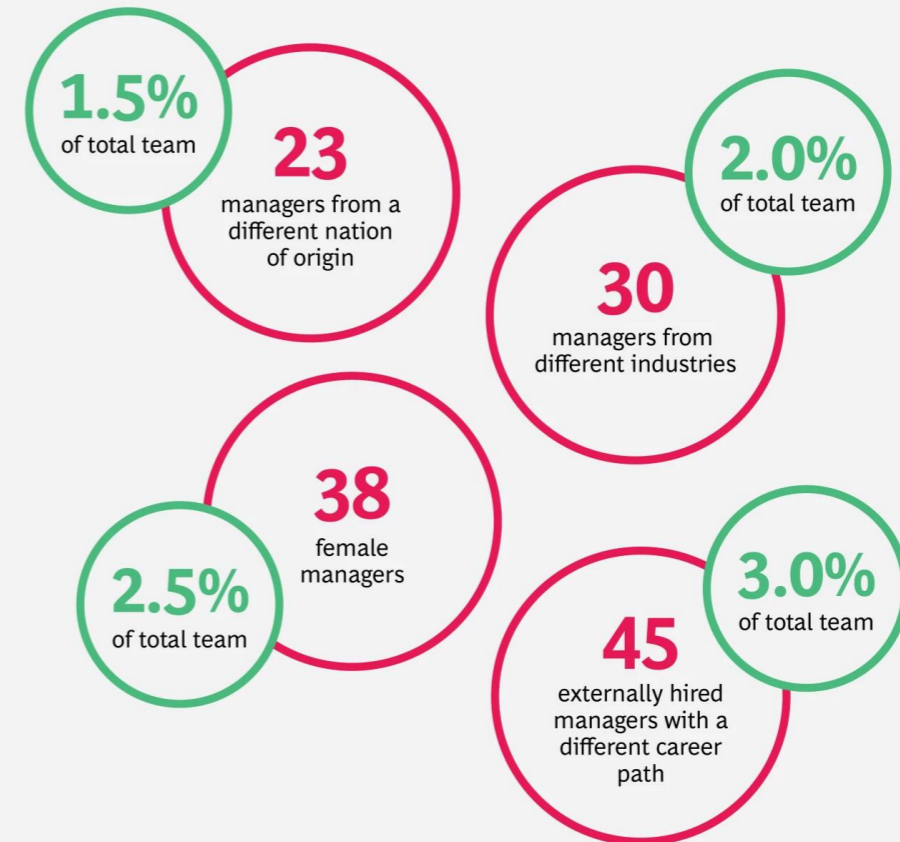
<https://www.bcg.com/publications/2018/how-diverse-leadership-teams-boost-innovation>



Why should we care?

“...if our hypothetical company were to hire 30 managers from a different industry (2% of the total management team), it would improve its innovation revenue by a full percentage point. Hiring 38 female managers (2.5% of the team) would have the same result, as would hiring 23 managers (1.5% of the team) from a country other than the one in which the company is based.”

EXHIBIT 2 | Changes in Leadership Can Lead to a Percentage Point Gain in Innovation Revenue



Source: BCG diversity and innovation survey, 2017 (n=1,681).

Note: These numbers assume existing diversity in line with averages based on our data. They represent the effect of changing a single dimension in isolation, assuming that all other variables remain constant.



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Thank You.

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