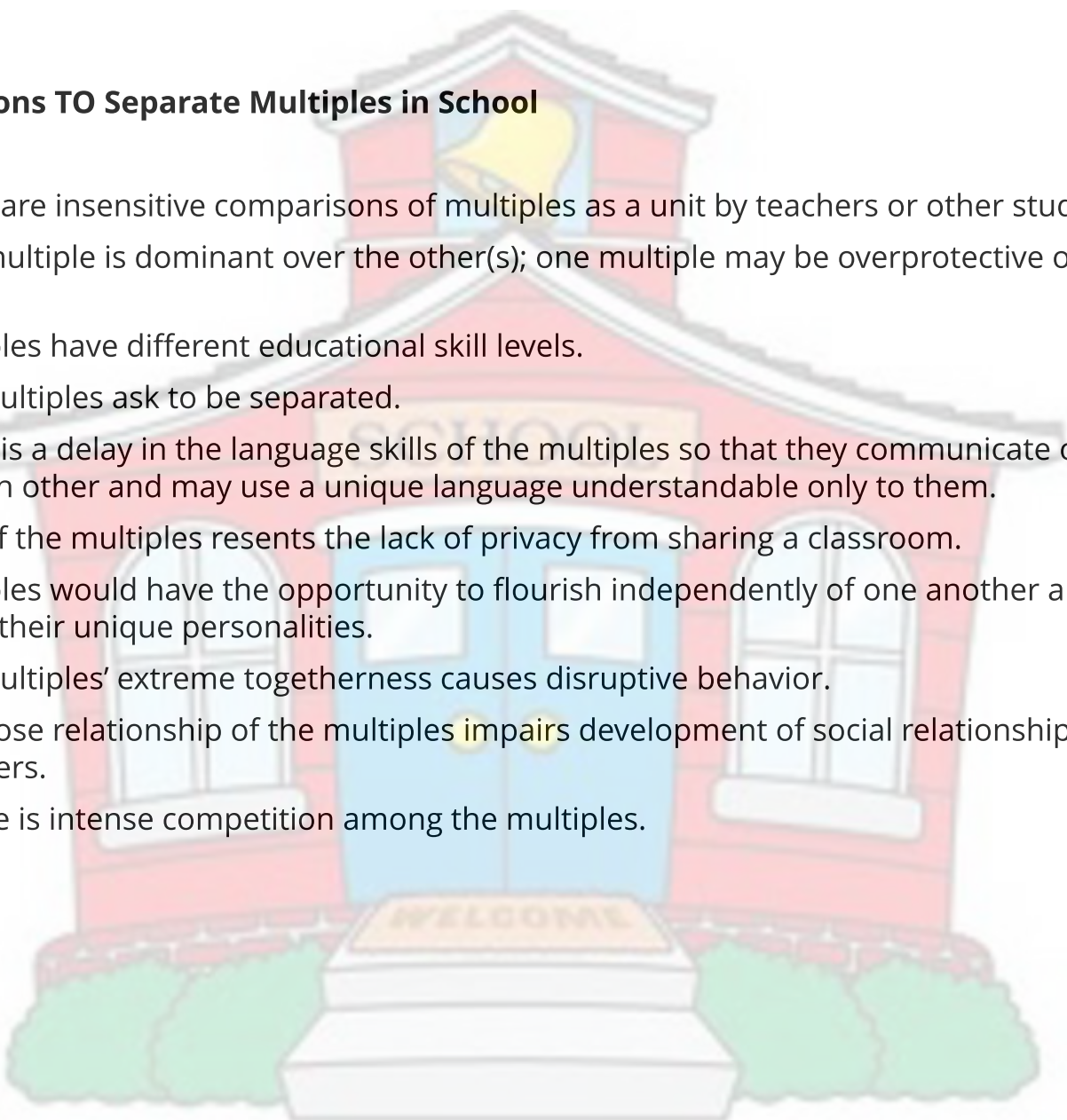


Placement of Multiples in School: Together or Apart

Parents with twins, triplets, quads, or more, strive for successful placement of their children in school; and, to do so they must answer the question about whether their multiples should have individual classrooms or share the same one. Multiples of America has conducted ongoing research on this subject for decades and recommends that this decision be made on an individual basis following an evaluation of the unique strengths and challenges of each set of multiples and be reviewed annually. Below is an excerpt from our *Placement of Multiple Birth Children in School* publication (revised in 2020) sharing reasoning for both options.

10 Reasons TO Separate Multiples in School

1. There are insensitive comparisons of multiples as a unit by teachers or other students.
2. One multiple is dominant over the other(s); one multiple may be overprotective of the other(s).
3. Multiples have different educational skill levels.
4. The multiples ask to be separated.
5. There is a delay in the language skills of the multiples so that they communicate only with each other and may use a unique language understandable only to them.
6. One of the multiples resents the lack of privacy from sharing a classroom.
7. Multiples would have the opportunity to flourish independently of one another and develop their unique personalities.
8. The multiples' extreme togetherness causes disruptive behavior.
9. The close relationship of the multiples impairs development of social relationships with others.
10. There is intense competition among the multiples.



10 Reasons NOT TO Separate Multiples in School

1. There are emotional issues at home (death, divorce, other).
2. Only one classroom is available.
3. Multiples have similar skill levels in a specialty school.
4. The multiples ask to be placed together.
5. “Two heads are better than one”— i.e., academic support of one another.
6. The multiples need the support of each other in emotionally adjusting to a new environment, especially when younger.
7. The multiples have trouble focusing in class when separated due to worry and concern about the co-multiple(s).
8. The teachers are widely different in teaching methods resulting in unequal education standards and assignments, causing some possible resentment or jealousy of each other.
9. Give teachers the opportunity to observe the multiple relationship.
10. There is a unique bond amongst multiples that provides security.

Review our publication, *Placement of Multiple Birth Children in School*, for comprehensive research analysis of this topic to aid in determining the best decision for each set of multiples.

