

Attention Deficit Disorder or Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder:

(Attention Inconsistent)

Not primarily an emotional problem but rather a neurological problem with a biological basis and behavioral manifestations.

There are four major classifications of symptoms of ADD/ADHD:

1. Inattention
2. Impulsiveness
3. Hyperactivity
4. Emotional Instability

Inattention characteristics:

1. He often fails to finish what he starts, whether it's chores or homework.
2. He doesn't seem to listen and can't remember instructions he was given.
3. He cannot stay focused in play or school work.
4. He is easily distracted by extraneous stimuli.
5. He can't seem to organize tasks or activities.
6. He is constantly losing toys, school work, and books.

Impulsiveness characteristics:

1. He often acts without thinking and later feels sorry for the consequences.
2. He shifts excessively from one activity to another.
3. He needs a lot of supervision.
4. He speaks loudly and out of turn in class.
5. He talks too much, often interrupting others.
6. He doesn't wait to take turns in games or groups.
7. He wants instant gratification.

Emotional Instability characteristics:

1. He had many angry outbursts.
2. He is a social loner, missing normal social cues.
3. He blames others for his problems.
4. He fights with others quickly.
5. He is very sensitive to criticism.
6. He has dramatic mood swings.
7. His behavior is often inappropriate.
8. He has low stress tolerance.

Hyperactivity characteristics:

1. He runs about and climbs on things excessively.
2. He can't sit still and is fidgety.
3. He has difficulty staying in his seat and bothers classmates.
4. He is excessively active during sleep.
5. He is always on the "go" and acts as if "driven."
6. He has difficulty playing quietly.
7. He does physically dangerous activities without considering possible consequences.