



## Why Can't My Child Pay Attention

This is a short test to measure your child's impulsivity and attentiveness. These are problems that many parents have questions about. Many children exhibit some of these behaviors. Attention Deficit Disorder however, is a problem that only about 3% of children have. It usually begins before age seven and is more common in boys. ADD can cause academic difficulties and, at times, social problems. Sometimes the condition continues into adulthood, sometimes they disappear at puberty. At other times, hyperactivity may cease at puberty but other symptoms continue into adulthood. Circle the appropriate number, indicating how often your child experiences each symptom.

	Not at all (0)	Just a little (1)	Pretty often (2)	Very often (3)
Restless, overactive	0	1	2	3
Excitable, impulsive	0	1	2	3
Disturbs other children	0	1	2	3
Fails to finish things (Short tension span)	0	1	2	3
Can't sit still	0	1	2	3
Inattentive, distractible	0	1	2	3
Demands must be met, Easily frustrated	0	1	2	3
Cries	0	1	2	3
Mood changes quickly	0	1	2	3
Temper outbursts	0	1	2	3

A score of 12 or more suggests that a child may have attention deficit disorder. If your score was higher than 12, you may want to take your child to a professional. Remember, if you or your child needs help, all you need to do is ask.