

# FACT SHEET 5: FASD, AD/HD, & Asperger Syndrome

## Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

### Select the Most Appropriate Response

1. With respect to distinctive facial characteristics, a FASD student might have short eye slits, a flat mid-face, a flattened nose, an overall flattened facial bone structure, a thin upper lip, epicanthal folds, a low nasal bridge, minor ear anomalies, and a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.  
  - a) pointed chin
  - b) open spinal column
  - c) absence of facial hair
  
2. Easily distracted, confused by sequential events, prone to bouts of violence, unable to discern reality from fantasy, and alienated from his/her peers could all be features of the FASD student.  
  - a) true
  - b) false
  - c) does not say
  
3. The FASD student can be incredibly strong in some areas within the total schooling experience.  
  - a) true
  - b) false
  - c) does not say
  
4. The FASD student's thinking process maybe very rigid and his/her \_\_\_\_\_ may be inconsistent at best.  
  - a) memory
  - b) coordination
  - c) fluidity
  
5. Both FAS and FAE, now known as FASD, are \_\_\_\_\_ conditions and must be diagnosed by a \_\_\_\_\_.  
  - a) psychological, psychiatrist
  - b) psychosomatic, psychologist
  - c) medical, doctor

6. The FASD student cannot have normal or above normal intelligence.
- a) true
  - b) false
  - c) cannot determine
7. Traditionally, FAE was the term used to describe a case where prenatal alcohol exposure had been \_\_\_\_\_, but only some of the other diagnostic criteria were present.
- a) suspected
  - b) confirmed
  - c) introduced
8. Misshapen \_\_\_\_\_ is another possible physical abnormality in the FASD student.
- a) toes
  - b) tongue
  - c) teeth
9. Although the FASD student can have much impairment, research fundamentally states that overall brain damage is rarely involved.
- a) true
  - b) false
  - c) does not say
10. With respect to FASD, the degree of neurological impairment and other characteristics depend on the amount of alcohol consumed, the timing of the drinking, and other metabolic and \_\_\_\_\_ factors.
- a) environmental
  - b) social
  - c) genetic
11. According to the British Columbia resource guide, FASD students are generally characterized by delayed growth, intellectual and behavioural disabilities, and, in many instances, \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) distinctive facial features
  - b) criminal proclivities
  - c) profound speech impairments

12. Traditionally, FAE was/is more easily identifiable when compared to FAS, due to the increase in pronounced physical abnormalities.
- a) true
  - b) false
  - c) does not say
13. FASD is a problem found in all \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ groups.
- a) races, socio-economic
  - b) places, racial
  - c) jurisdictions, cultural
14. A student with FASD may experience attentional difficulties and may be unable to \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) connect cause and effect
  - b) read and write
  - c) do mathematics beyond a very rudimentary level
15. With respect to specific teaching strategies and the FASD student, flexibility and freedom of choice are cited as legitimate options to consider.
- a) true
  - b) false
  - c) does not say
16. As a legitimate strategy for the FASD student, \_\_\_\_\_ is listed very high up on the list.
- a) intimidation
  - b) setting limits
  - c) choice
17. It has been suggested that independent workstations or study carrels work very well with the FASD student.
- a) true
  - b) false
  - c) cannot determine
18. The medical term for a flat forehead is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) micrognathia
  - b) microcephaly
  - c) microplasmaic

19. The FASD student may have real problems in learning to \_\_\_\_\_ words.
- a) articulate
  - b) decode
  - c) cannot determine
20. The article also states that the FASD student may have an incredibly difficult time understanding \_\_\_\_\_ and making and keeping a friend.
- a) mathematics
  - b) social cues
  - c) foreign languages
21. It is suspected that many children currently labeled as learning disabled might actually be FASD (FAE) children.
- a) true
  - b) false
  - c) cannot determine

## Students with AD/HD

**Answer the Following by Referring to the “Answer Box” at the Bottom.**

1. Attention-deficit/ hyperactivity disorder (AD/HD) is characterized by developmentally inappropriate levels of inattention, \_\_\_\_\_, and hyperactivity.
2. AD/HD is a \_\_\_\_\_ disorder that affects 3 to 7 percent of the school-aged population.
3. In approximately what year did medical science first document children exhibiting all the symptoms of AD/HD? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Typically, AD/HD symptoms arise in the earliest of childhoods, unless associated with some type of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Research indicates that AD/HD tends to run in \_\_\_\_\_, meaning that there is a strong \_\_\_\_\_ component, which needs to be seriously considered in the “official” diagnosis.
6. AD/HD is considered a \_\_\_\_\_ disorder, affecting children, adolescents, and adults.
7. Research indicates that three separate yet interactive \_\_\_\_\_ regions have been associated with the disorder.
8. AD/HD may co-exist with many other disorders, however, the most common ones are Behaviour Disorders, Mood Disorders, Anxiety Disorders, Tourette’s Syndrome, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
9. For most people diagnosed with AD/HD, \_\_\_\_\_ is an integral part of the overall treatment process.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ compounds are the most widely used medications prescribed for the management of AD/HD.
11. Most of the medications prescribed in AD/HD treatment allow important nerve cells to more affectively \_\_\_\_\_ with each other.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ is a very common psycho-stimulant used in the treatment of AD/HD.
13. \_\_\_\_\_, or atomoxetine, is neither a stimulant nor an antidepressant; it alleviates inattention and hyperactivity/impulsivity symptoms by affecting specific aspects of the norepinephrine system.

14. The two most common side effects of AD/HD medications are reduction in appetite and difficulty \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Research states that about 40 percent of individuals with AD/HD also have a co-existing \_\_\_\_\_.
16. The most careful studies suggest that between 10-30 percent of children with AD/HD, and 47 percent of adults with AD/HD, also have \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Much of the research generated by B. F. Feingold, as it relates to AD/HD, insists that the strict regulation of \_\_\_\_\_ could profoundly improve behavioural and learning outcomes.
18. Youngsters with AD/HD often experience delays in \_\_\_\_\_ functioning, and, therefore, behave in ways more like younger children.
19. Research suggests that for the AD/HD student, school success may require a variety of classroom \_\_\_\_\_ and behavioural \_\_\_\_\_.
20. Although all of the symptoms of AD/HD are present to some extent in most children, when these symptoms are developmentally extreme, pervasive and \_\_\_\_\_, a diagnosis of AD/HD is warranted.

**ANSWER BOX:**

**Depression, persistent, accommodations, impulsivity, Psychostimulant, diet, medication, interventions, independent, neurobiological, learning disabilities, genetic, brain injury, life span, communicate, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Strattera, families, brain, sleeping, 1902, Ritalin, 1950, spine.**

## (More ADHD)

### Answer the Following True or False:

1. \_\_\_\_ Research suggests that teens with AD/HD present a special challenge.
2. \_\_\_\_ Research suggests that children with AD/HD are at risk for potentially serious problems in adolescence, including academic underachievement, school failure, problems in social relations, and teen pregnancy.
3. \_\_\_\_ Some important strategies to use with the AD/HD student would include being consistent, using positive reinforcement, and teaching problem solving, communication, and self-advocacy skills.
4. \_\_\_\_ Research suggests that over the last decade, there has been very little interest in AD/HD.
5. \_\_\_\_ AD/HD is a brain-based disorder.
6. \_\_\_\_ A number of chiropractors believe that chiropractic medicine is an effective intervention for AD/HD.
7. \_\_\_\_ It is stated that people cannot be tested with “paper and pencil” or blood tests to “prove” they have AD/HD.
8. \_\_\_\_ Recent research suggests that youths with AD/HD are at increased risk for early cigarette use, followed by alcohol and then drug use.
9. \_\_\_\_ It has been proven that some medications can cure AD/HD.
10. \_\_\_\_ Research suggests that most “side effects”, as they relate to the AD/HD student who is on a tightly controlled drug therapy, are mild and typically short-term.
11. \_\_\_\_ Over the years, research suggests that the most effective method in successfully programming for the AD/HD student is one which combines medication with behaviour management; often referred to as a multimodal treatment approach.
12. \_\_\_\_ Conduct Disorder rarely co-exits with AD/HD.
13. \_\_\_\_ Research has shown that AD/HD and Conduct Disordered students, who are treated with stimulant medicines, are not only more attentive, but less anti-social and aggressive as well.
14. \_\_\_\_ About 60% of all students who have Tourette’s Syndrome also have AD/HD.
15. \_\_\_\_ Experts recommend that all children with AD/HD be screened for possible thyroid dysfunction.

## Asperger Syndrome

### Answer the Following True or False:

1. \_\_\_\_ This is a disorder that is characterized by significant difficulties in social interaction, accompanied by, many times, restricted and/or repetitive patterns related to both behaviour and interests. It differs from other autism spectrum disorders in that linguistic and cognitive functioning can be in the average to above average ranges.
2. \_\_\_\_ Asperger syndrome is named after the Austrian pediatrician Hans Asperger who, in 1944, studied and described children in his practice who lacked nonverbal communication skills, demonstrated limited empathy with their peers, and were physically clumsy.
3. \_\_\_\_ Although research on the prevalence rate for Asperger syndrome is ongoing, it is thought that as many as 1 in 165 individuals in Canada have some form of an ASD.
4. \_\_\_\_ Although Asperger syndrome can be first detected in childhood, many individuals are not diagnosed until well into adolescence and/or adulthood.
5. \_\_\_\_ There is very little research that suggests that Asperger syndrome may have a genetic link.
6. \_\_\_\_ A common characteristic of this particular disorder is that, despite a desire for friends, students with this exceptionality have great difficulty in initiating and/or maintaining close relationships.
7. \_\_\_\_ Another general characteristic attached to this particular area of exceptionality is that a student may be completely unaware of the thoughts and/or feelings of others – sometimes, unintentionally, appearing rude or inconsiderate.
8. \_\_\_\_ Based on the most recent population statistics for Ontario, and by applying the present prevalence rates for the larger population, there are currently 74,356 individuals in Ontario living with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.
9. \_\_\_\_ Research now suggests that because students with Asperger Syndrome have such difficulty learning in a traditional manner, that the onset of depression is also something that needs to be carefully guarded against.
10. \_\_\_\_ Many individuals diagnosed with Asperger syndrome are rarely able to identify similar traits in other family members.
11. \_\_\_\_ With effective treatment, children with Asperger Syndrome can learn to cope with their exceptionality, but they may still find social situations and personal relationships extremely challenging.

12. \_\_\_\_\_ Children with Asperger syndrome typically exhibit strengths in their visual processing skills, along with significant weaknesses in their ability to process information auditorally. Therefore, the use of visuals, as well as other visual support strategies, should be consistently incorporated into any lesson where this particular identified student is concerned.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ As a teacher, with respect to socially inappropriate behavior and the identified Asperger student, you will need to provide instant, constructive (but positive) feedback whenever there is a problem and/or situation. In essence, you will need to thoroughly explain the problem and/or situation with the student, and not assume that he or she always knows what you are talking about.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ At times, students with Asperger Syndrome may appear non-compliant as, in many instances, they may have considerable difficulty in taking direction and/or coping with negative feedback.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Where this particular exceptionality is concerned, without proper diagnosis, support and intervention, children, adults and their families struggle to understand their puzzling profile of strengths and deficits.