

ADHD, Primarily Inattentive Type (Summary)

- Typically “dreamers” or deep thinkers who often seem to live in their own world
- Less likely to display significant ongoing behavior problems than typical ADHD
- Prone to emotionally intense episodes
- Difficult to motivate
- Less likely to be identified by teachers as having attention problems
- Tend to be slow in completion of tasks
- Become overfocused on some tasks
- Often seen by teachers as underachievers
- Low academic interest and effort
- Hard to motivate for three main reasons:
 - Overfocused on areas of interest and tend to ignore and avoid things not interesting to them
 - Less interested in common reinforcers than other children
 - Less motivated by parental approval than are other children
- Display academic inertia
- Difficult to motivate in extra-curricular activities as well
 - Tend to be limited in their range of interests
 - Less socially inclined
 - Difficult to motivate through external means.

Optimal environments for these children include:

- High structure
- Consistency
- Clear expectations
 - Concrete goals
 - High degree of supervision and guidance
- Behavioral programs targeting specific expectations.

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