

Common Misinterpretation of Normal Responses in Students with FASD

Behavior	Misinterpretation	Accurate Interpretation
Noncompliance	Willful misconduct Attention seeking Stubborn	Difficulty translating verbal directions into action Doesn't understand
Repeatedly making the same mistakes	Willful misconduct Manipulative	Can't link cause & effect Can't see similarities Difficulty generalizing
Often late	Lazy, slow Poor parenting Willful misconduct	Can't understand the abstract concept of time Needs assistance organizing
Not sitting Still	Seeking Attention Bothering others Willful misconduct	Neurologically based need to move will learning Sensory overload
Poor social judgment	Poor parenting Willful misconduct Abused child	Not able to interpret social cues from peers Doesn't know what to do
Overly Physical	Willful misconduct Deviancy	Hyper- or Hypo-sensitivity to touch Doesn't understand social cues regarding boundaries
Doesn't work independently	Willful misconduct Poor parenting	Chronic memory Problems Can't translate verbal directions into action

FASD RESOURCES

- The Florida Center list of books and resources for FASD
<http://www.thefloridacenter.org/fasdresources.htm>
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Florida Guide
<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/family/socialwork/pdf/fasd.pdf>
- NYS Office of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Services www.oasas.state.ny.us
- National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder <http://www.nofas.org/>
- Chart Showing Overlapping Behavioral Characteristics & Related Mental Health Diagnoses in Children
http://www.fasaware.co.uk/education_docs/Overlapping_Characteristics.pdf