

PROFILE OF THE HYPERKINETIC CHILD

The hyperkinetic child exhibits many characteristics common to the dyslexic child. Quantitative and qualitative differences are noted below.

CASE HISTORY INFORMATION INDICATES;

- 1. Greater incidence of illness or injury before, during and after birth.**
- 2. Developmental history somewhat slow but usually within normal limits.
May learn to talk later and have more gross motor problems than dyslexics.**
- 3. Usually no family history of reading or learning problems.**
- 4. Some pertinent symptoms suggesting neurological impairment.**
- 5. Hyperactivity usually noted quite early - usually before beginning school.**

TEST PERFORMANCE INDICATORS;

- 1. IQ test spotty - poorer performance on motor tasks, arithmetic, and abstract reasoning.**
- 2. Gestalt function - destruction of gestalts, overlapping of figures, open figures, additional angles, and/or perseveration may be noted.**
- 3. Draw-a-Man test - primitive figure well below average for age and indicated IQ, may be "open" figure.**
- 4. Severe directionality confusion.**
- 5. Reading ability below normal expected for age and IQ. Adequate mechanical skills but reduced ability to comprehend what is read.**

CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: Child characterized as-

- 1. Immature**
- 2. Slow in finishing work**
- 3. Lazy, not trying**
- 4. Daydreamer**
- 5. Distractible, shifts of activity not indicated by dyslexics**
- 6. Inattention more profound for hyperkinetic**
- 7. Poor organizing ability, greater difficulty with spatial relationships than the dyslexic**
- 8. Extremely poor handwriting**
- 9. Clumsy-may fall frequently**
- 10. Poor in all subjects. Decoding facility in reading may make great strides while comprehension remains poor.**
- 11. Behavior is typically explosive and impulsive.**