



RED FLAGS OF SENSORY PROCESSING DISORDER

Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) can affect one sense or multiple senses. Symptoms vary within the disorder. A complete SPD checklist may be found under Symptoms, SPD, in Our Library on the SPD Foundation web site.

Infants and toddlers

- Problems eating or sleeping
- Irritable when being dressed; uncomfortable in clothes
- Rarely plays with toys
- Resists cuddling, arches away when held
- Cannot calm self
- Floppy or stiff body, motor delays

Pre-schoolers

- Over-sensitive to touch, noises, smells, other people
- Difficulty making friends
- Difficulty dressing, eating, sleeping, and/or toilet training
- Clumsy; poor motor skills; weak
- In constant motion; in everyone else's face and space
- Frequent or long temper tantrums

Grade schoolers

- Over-sensitive to touch, noise, smells, other people
- Easily distracted, fidgety, craves movement; aggressive
- Easily overwhelmed
- Difficulty with handwriting or motor activities
- Difficulty making friends
- Unaware of pain and/or other people

Adolescents and adults

- Over-sensitive to touch, noise, smells, other sensations, or people
- Poor self-esteem; afraid of failing at new tasks
- Lethargic and slow
- Always on the go; impulsive; distractible
- Leaves tasks uncompleted
- Clumsy, slow, poor motor skills or handwriting
- Difficulty staying focused
- Difficulty staying focused at work and in meetings

* Consider the child's behavior during the past six months. If you recognize more than a few of the following symptoms in a child, screening for SPD may be warranted.



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