## Symptoms of ADHD

## Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

In order to have a diagnosis of ADHD, symptoms must be present before age 12. These symptoms need to interfere with the child's ability to function in at least two different environments (such as home and school) – and six or more symptoms of either inattention or hyperactivity must be present.

## **Inattentive Symptoms:**

- Makes careless mistakes and doesn't pay attention to details
- Can't sustain attention in school or play activities
- Doesn't listen when someone is talking to them
- Can't follow through on instructions and doesn't finish tasks
- Can't organize tasks or homework assignments
- Avoids, dislikes or doesn't engage in tasks that aren't interesting or require sustained effort
- Frequently loses things
- Is easily distracted
- Is frequently forgetful

## **Hyperactive/Impulsive Symptoms:**

- Is fidgety
- Can't stay seated in activities where being seating is expected
- Runs around in situations where that behavior is inappropriate
- Can't play quietly
- Is often on the go or "driven by a motor"
- Talks excessively
- Blurts out answers inappropriately
- Can't wait his turn
- Frequently interrupts others