



## Does Percy Have ADHD?

*Percy says he's been diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. About two million kids have this condition in the U.S. Read the three main traits of an ADHD person, below, and think about whether this describes Percy, based on what you've read of Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief so far.*

### **The three main traits of an ADHD person:**

#### **Inattention.**

- Has a hard time keeping his mind on any one thing.
- May get bored with a task after only a few minutes.
- He may give effortless, automatic attention to activities and things he enjoys.
- Organizing and completing a task or learning something new is difficult.

#### **Hyperactivity.**

- Always seem to be in motion. Can't sit still.
- May dash around or talk incessantly.
- Sitting still through a lesson can be an impossible task. May squirm in his seat or roam around the room. May touch everything, or noisily tap his pencil.
- Hyperactive teens may feel intensely restless.
- May be fidgety or try to do several things at once, bouncing around from one activity to the next.

#### **Impulsivity.**

- Doesn't seem to think before he acts.
- May blurt out inappropriate comments.
- May run into the street without looking, or get into situations without thinking of the consequences
- Has trouble waiting for things he wants or taking turns.
- May grab something from another person or hit someone when they're upset.

Adapted from: NIH Publication No. 96-3572, 1996, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service

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Ways Percy is like this:	Ways Percy is not like this:

inattentive

hyperactive

impulsive