

## Case Study

The subject of this case study is Eric Steven Lattin. Steven is a white/Caucasian, nine-year-old third grade student at Rocky River Elementary School. He lives at home with both parents and has one younger sister who is not yet in school. His mother is a second grade teacher assistant at Rocky River Elementary. Both parents are high school graduates and his mother has post high school education for teacher assistant. According to his classroom teacher, Steven has good parental support and encouragement in his schoolwork, especially from his mother who confers regularly with his teachers.

Steven has been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). This is Steven's history. He began kindergarten at R. Brown McAllister Elementary. In kindergarten Steven's report cards stated that he needed improvement in social skills. He specifically needed improvement in participating and cooperating in group activities. In first grade his report cards stated that he was below grade level in all areas of language arts. He also was reported as needing improvement in the following areas: all areas of social skills, especially working in groups; work habits and following directions; observing school and classroom rules; accepting responsibility for own actions, self control; and listening attentively and responsively. His first grade teacher, who was on the school ADHD team, suggested to his parents that he be tested for ADHD. Steven was tested by a physician and diagnosed with the disorder. The physician prescribed Ritalin.

In second grade, Steven changed schools and began attending Rocky River Elementary. Steven's grades and behavior reports improved dramatically. His report card stated that he received a satisfactory report in work skills and a "making progress" report in obeying school and classroom rules. Also, he finished the year on grade level in all subjects. Actually, when tested for reading with the running records assessment, he received the following scores: 98%, 97%, and 98%.

When entering third grade this year Steven took the third grade pretest. He received the following scores:

- Reading 83 Percentile
- Math 67 Percentile

He is on grade level in all subjects. Ms. Newman reported that Steven is a very high achiever. His spelling contract is assigned on Monday and is due on Thursday. Steven always has his contract completely finished on Tuesday. This assignment requires considerable work in several of the language arts skills. She says he usually does most of his other assignments with the same enthusiasm and motivation. Ms. Newman reported that sometimes he still has problems in social skills, especially group work, talking and distracting other students. However, she stated that this is usually right before he takes his second dose of Ritalin after lunch, probably before the medicine has had time to take effect.. She also stated that he is very aware when he needs his medicine and will certainly let you know.

When interviewing her about Steven for this assignment, she advised me that Steven was a textbook case of ADHD. However, she emphasized that Steven is a very bright boy with much ability and potential and she expects him to be quite successful in school