

DEVELOPMENTAL COORDINATION DISORDER

What is DCD?

- A motor skills disorder
- Characterized by delay in developing motor skills (e.g., walking down stairs or tying shoes) or trouble with coordinating movements
- Limits a child's ability to do everyday things (e.g., eating alone, dressing, etc.)

Overall, children with DCD have difficulty with age-appropriate skills or activities. This makes it hard for them to participate at the same level as typically developing peers.

What Can You Do?

- If you have concerns about your child's motor skills, talk to your doctor!
- Talk to a speech-language pathologist about early intervention for speech & language skills
- Work with your child's school to develop ideas on how to help your child in the classroom

Common Comorbidities

- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Learning disabilities
- Specific Language Impairment (SLI)

Speech & Language

- Children with DCD may:
 - Be late talkers
 - Have trouble understanding the meaning of words
 - Produce slow and unclear speech

Challenges

- Preschool – coloring, using scissors, playing at recess
- Elementary – writing clearly
- Daily living:
 - Using a fork or spoon
 - Buttoning a shirt
 - Unwrapping packages

For more information, visit:
<https://canchild.ca/en/diagnoses/developmental-coordination-disorder>



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