Linda Hamilton is a teacher and educational consultant who specializes in professional development, program design, and instructional coaching for elementary schools nationally. Linda is devoted to helping systems, teams, and individual educators examine and enhance services for children. Linda has served in many roles during her career in education. Highlights include:

- special and general education teacher,
- Educational Specialist for a State Education Service Center,
- the Director of Professional Development for a municipal initiative,
- and Assistant Director of Early Childhood Programs in a large school district.
- Linda has been honored as a Regional Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year.

To download this handout go to:  www.winston-sa.org/symposium/
Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a brain disorder marked by an ongoing pattern of inattention and/or hyperactivity-impulsivity that interferes with functioning or development.

Inattention means a person wanders off task, lacks persistence, has difficulty sustaining focus, and is disorganized; and these problems are not due to defiance or lack of comprehension.
Hyperactivity means a person seems to move about constantly, including in situations in which it is not appropriate; or excessively fidgets, taps, or talks.

Impulsivity means a person makes hasty actions that occur in the moment without first thinking about them and that may have high potential for harm; or a desire for immediate rewards or inability to delay gratification. An impulsive person may be socially intrusive and excessively interrupt others or make important decisions without considering the long-term consequences.
Aspects of the environment
- Uncluttered & Organized
- Space (visual & movement)
- Flexibility
- Procedures / Systems
- Choices

Aspects of the Materials
- Promote movement & social interaction
- Relevant
- Active vs Passive
- Choices
Accommodations for the brain with ADD/ADHD
- color coding
- extra set of books for home
- private talks and nonverbal signals
- buddy to take notes
- special seating
- focusing breaks
- instructions given in small steps and in writing
- use pictures to accompany verbal instructions and lesson content
- break long assignments into chunks
- highlighting and prioritizing important info
- calm, instrumental music playing in the background
- light covers (blue works best)
- feedback

Engagement Principles
- Being in motion helps the brain engage
- Occupying the ear can help a visual or kinesthetic learner engage
- Strong procedures and systems provide organization
- Plan for social interaction & movement

Resources
- Tools for Engagement by Eric Jensen
- www.understood.org
- ADDitude Magazine
- Different Brains Different Learners by Eric Jensen
- Quantum Learning & Teaching
- Brain Gym by Paul Dennison