Students with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) have special learning needs and face a wide range of behavioral challenges.

Characteristic Facial Features of a Child with FASD

How does FASD affect learning and behavior?

Students with FASD have problems receiving and processing information. They often cannot store what they learn or lack the mental capacity to use new information they have been given.

While students with FASD have IQ scores that range from 29 to 140, their overall level of adaptive functioning (i.e. ability to perform daily life skills) is often much lower than would be expected.

(Teresa Kellerman)

Recognizing FASD can be a challenging task.

Most students with FASD are unidentified or go misdiagnosed as most people with FASD do not have the characteristic features associated with fetal alcohol syndrome. The majority of students with FASD are not significantly developmentally disabled, and they can be articulate and skilled at performing specific tasks.

Students who exhibit behavior or learning problems may require psychoeducational testing to identify possible presence of central nervous system damage.

For more information on FASD, go to www.nofas.org