

Characteristics of 11-12 Year Olds

tireless explorer (wants to know how, why, when, who, where)
capable of understanding many details
moving into a wider society than family, friends and relatives
becoming a functioning member of society
challenges rules and restrictions
loves to argue
is quick to criticize
frequently on the phone
expects perfection from others
yells, swears, talks back, says mean and sarcastic things
makes unkind references to your "old age"
likes to gossip
enjoys additional responsibilities
always trying to make things fair, equal, just
"not fair" still means "this is not the way I want things"
has an intense need to be right
has difficulty with siblings close in age
may cheat or steal with peers
wants the radio or television on while doing homework
has mood swings
needs guidelines
loves to do things with friends
expresses boredom
needs rest
developing exactness, notetaking, researching, sharing, experimenting
aware of physical growth of others and self
may not want to be touched in public