**Characteristics of Middle Grade Students**

• Are egocentric, argue to convince others

• Often consider academic goals a secondary priority

• Experience changes in metabolism that can cause extreme restlessness and extreme listlessness

• Have ravenous appetites and peculiar tastes

• Are often erratic and inconsistent in their behavior. Anxiety and fear are contrasted with periods of bravado. Feelings shift between superiority and inferiority

• Tend to exaggerate simple occurrences and believe that personal problems, experiences are unique to themselves

• Are moody, restless and often self-conscious

• Challenge authority figures

• Often confused by new school settings