

VISUAL PERCEPTUAL ACTIVITIES

Below are some activities which may improve the child's visual perceptual skills:

Visual Spatial Relationships- the ability to determine that one form or part of a form is turned in a different direction than the others. Position in space makes it difficult for the child to plan actions in relation to objects around him/her; difficulty with spatial concepts such as "in, out, on, under, next to, up, down, in front of.;" difficulty differentiating between "b, d, p, q;" leads to poor sight vocabulary; contributes to difficulty reading charts, maps and diagrams; results in inconsistent symbol reversals and transposing numbers or letters, and losing place on a page; difficulty finding what is being looked for, attending to a task, remembering left and right, math computations if more than one digit; and forgets where to start reading.

- navigate through an obstacle course
- copy 3-D block designs
- place plastic letters into a bag, and have the child identify the letter by "feel"
- identify numbers or letters that have been made incorrectly in several places, and the child has to identify each place the letter has an error (you can do this on a chalk board and the child can erase the errors and correct them).

Compensatory Strategies:

- graph paper can help with spacing of letters or math problems
- papers with raised lines can help with finding the space of letters or margins.
- visual cues of colored lines on margins or a sticker can be used.
- you can use a "glue" raised line on the margins of a cutting task to help them "feel" where to cut.
- Use visual cues (e.g., colored dot) to indicate place on a map or chart, or puzzle pieces.
- Draw directional arrows to help with directions or placement (e.g., for letter formation).
- Wear something on one arm to indicate direction (e.g., watch on left arm to indicate left direction.
- Allow oral arithmetic.

Visual Sequential Memory-the ability to remember a series of forms and find it among four other series of forms; Visual sequential memory reflects a child's ability to recall a series or sequence of forms. Functionally, this skill would influence a child's ability to sequence letters or numbers in words or math problems, remember the alphabet in sequence, copy from one place to another (e.g., from board, from book, from one side of the paper to the other), spell, perform math, retrieve words with reversals or when out of order, and remember order of events after reading (which affects reading comprehension). The child would also tend to forget assignments and forget steps that are shown in an activity.

- complete word search puzzles that require you to look for a series of letters
- Play games such as Bingo which require you to look for a specific form.