

## Visual Perceptual Skills - General

**Visual Discrimination** - ability to match exact characteristics of two shapes when one of the shapes is among similar shapes. Noticing similarities and differences between shapes objects and symbols.

- Hide objects / shapes of varying textures / size in a bag without looking –ask the child to describe a shape or object by feeling it without looking, then describe it again when they can see it.
- Sorting activities classifying by colour, shape, size, texture, etc.
- Matching pictures from outline.
- Use concrete objects e.g. pencils and one pen and ask the child which one is different.
- Number or letter hunts from paragraphs e.g. finding all the 5s on a page.
- Activity books: Spot the difference, Odd One Out
- Peg patterns, form boards, Lego and Hama Beads e.g. make string bead arrangement for the child to then copy and check against yours for accuracy. Keep it simple maximum of two colours or two shapes.
- Games e.g. Picture Lotto, Snap.
- Match socks



**Visual Figure Ground Discrimination** - Differentiation between objects in the foreground and background.

Being able to locate an object in a busy background.

- Discriminating objects in the room e.g. find all the red objects, wooden objects. Make the activity increasingly complex – ask the child to locate harder to find objects.
- Word or letter finding on a 'busy' page
- Overlapping figures – trace the outline of a particular shape
- Word searches
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Where's Wally pictures
- Odd one out puzzles
- Play "I'm thinking of something in the room that is ....."( for example, small and green). The child searches for the item. Used hot/cold cues
- Ask the child to find a person in the playground or on the bus
- I spy with a paper towel tube. Spot objects around the room
- Untangle a loose knot of different coloured string/wool



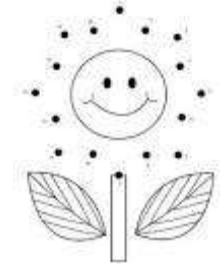
**Visual Memory** – The ability to remember what is seen for immediate recall. The ability to make a vivid image in their mind, once the image has been removed.

- Memory Game – place several objects on a tray. Give the child one minute to look and memorise them. Then cover them up and ask the child to recall the objects. Add or takeaway objects and child has to identify what has changed.

- Ball Sequences – using a ball, child watches and copies a sequence e.g. bounce, catch, throw up in the air. Start with short sequences and then increase as skills progress.
- Follow the leader – leader does actions, child then copies.
- Hide the raisin – place raisin under one of three cups, move them around slowly. Have the child identify the cup where raisin is. If finds raisin, gets to eat it. Increase complexity with more cups.
- Line objects up in a sequence and try to remember the order from left to right. Have the child close their eyes whilst you change the order of the objects. Have them reproduce the correct order again.

**Visual Closure** - Visual closure is the ability to identify a visual object from an incomplete visual presentation e.g. an object is partly obscured, pictures in dots.

- Jigsaws of increasing complexity
- Dot to dot activities
- Completing figures that are partially drawn – copying the other half of the picture so it is the same as the first half (symmetry pictures)
- Guess What? Ask the child to guess what an object is when only part is visible. A picture of an object could be put into four pieces and only one part given at a time until the child guesses what it is.



**Visual Spatial Relations** – the ability to perceive and object's position in space in relation to oneself and relation and in relation to each other or the perception of the direction in which an object is turned.

- Simon Says
- Rope Games – jumping between two ropes, jump over the rope, go under the rope
- Hockey Cokey
- Obstacle Course – involving climbing, crawling through hoops, diagonal lines / benches, circles. Bring incorporate shapes, over, under, through.
- Mazes, dot to dot, word searches
- Picture assembly – cut up pictures and have the child put or glue them together as the original



**Form Constancy** - ability to see a form and being able to find that form, even though the form may be smaller, larger, rotated, reversed and or hidden.

- Matching 2D shapes to 3D objects
- Sorting and categorising objects and pictures – big, small, different colours
- Matching shapes turned in different position – 2D – paper or 3D – physical object
- Recognise words in isolation after reading them in text.
- Reading words in different fonts and identifying the same ones