

# VISUAL PERCEPTION



Visual perception is the brain’s ability to make sense of what the eyes see. Visual perception skills enable a child to make sense of and interpret what they are seeing.

There are seven different categories of visual perceptual skills;

<b>Visual Discrimination</b>	The ability to notice and compare the features of an item to match or distinguish it from another item. E.G. Distinguishing a P from an R, matching shapes to complete a puzzle
<b>Visual Figure Ground</b>	The ability to find an object when it is hidden in a busy background. E.G. “Where’s wally”
<b>Visual Memory</b>	The ability to recall something that you saw once it is gone
<b>Visual Sequential-Memory</b>	The ability to recall a sequence of objects in the correct order
<b>Visual Form Constancy</b>	The ability to notice that two objects are the same even if they are different in size, colour or font
<b>Visual Closure</b>	The ability to recognise an object even if part of the picture is missing
<b>Visual Spatial Relationships</b>	Understanding the relationships of objects and yourself, within the environment. E.G. ‘Stand behind mummy’ or ‘put the brick in the box’

## Why are visual perceptual skills important?

Visual perceptual skills are important for everyday skills such as:

- Reading
- Writing
- Completing puzzles
- Cutting
- Drawing
- Completing maths problems
- Dressing
- Copying from the board to paper

Without the ability to complete these everyday tasks, a child's self-esteem and confidence may suffer and they may have more difficulties at school compared to other children their age.

## Affected areas at home and school can include;

- Difficulty Identifying an object on a crowded page
- Difficulty catching a ball
- Unable to identify missing letters or parts of letters
- Poor handwriting
- Difficulty negotiating obstacle courses
- Behind in P.E at school
- Clumsy or bumping into things often



## Visual perception activities

### VISUAL DISCRIMINATION

Difficulties may include:

- Matching items  
(objects, shapes, letters, words)

### ACTIVITIES

- Picture matching
- Play pairing games: snap, bingo, dominoes
- Matching socks by colour, size or shape
- Spot the difference games

### VISUAL FIGURE GROUND

Difficulties may include:

- Finding a place on a page/picture
- Seeing relevant information from a board
- Finding details from a text or picture

### ACTIVITIES

- Pick up sticks
- Jigsaws
- Board games e.g. Snakes and ladders

### VISUAL MEMORY

Difficulties may include:

- Reading quickly and efficiently
- Copying off the board
- Difficulty recalling a series of instructions
- Difficulty remembering where items have been left

### ACTIVITIES

- What's missing: Show the child some items. Get the child to turn around. Take one away and ask the child to name what's missing.
- Memory Game: Expose a picture with familiar objects. Cover it and ask the child to remember as many items as they can.

## VISUAL FORM CONSTANCY

Difficulties may include:

- Reading, as child cannot recognize familiar letters when presented in different styles of print (fonts, size, or colour)
- Mastering the alphabet and numbers
- Recognizing errors

### ACTIVITIES

- Complete construction-type activities such as Connextix or Lego
- Create alphabet posters in different fonts so they get

## VISUAL CLOSURE

Difficulties may include:

- Understanding word completion tasks
- Completing jigsaw puzzles or block pictures
- Spelling names

### ACTIVITIES

- Jigsaw puzzles
- Dot to dots
- Colouring in

## VISUAL SEQUENTIAL MEMORY

Difficulties may include:

- Sequencing letters or numbers in words or maths problems
- Remembering the alphabet in sequence
- Copying from one place to another (e.g., from board, from book, from one side of the paper to the other),
- Remembering order of events after reading

### ACTIVITIES

- 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 or sequence.

## VISUAL SPATIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Difficulties may include:

- Finding place on a page
- Attending to a task
- Remembering left and right

## ACTIVITIES

- Place plastic letters into a bag, and have the child identify the letter by “feel”
- Navigate through an obstacle course

## TOYS AND GAMES ON OUR ONLINE STORE



Sisu7 stocks a wide range of products that provide children with a variety of developmental outcomes, contributing to their learning, social and academic skills.

Below is a link you can click to view products and games designed to improve visual perception skills that you can use with your child at home or school.

<https://sisu7.com.au/collections/children/children-visual-perception>

