

Visual Perception

Visual perception is how the brain interprets information taken in by the eye. It includes:

- Discrimination – identifying similarities and differences between objects
- Visual memory – putting visual information into short term memory
- Sequential memory – short term visual memory of items in a sequence
- Figure ground – determine foreground from background and identify objects in each
- Visual closure – figure out the whole picture when given only part
- Form constancy – knowing characteristics of an object don't change even if the size and position does
- Spatial relationships – identify position of objects in relation to each other and yourself

Activities to assist visual perception development:

- Puzzles
- Dot to dots
- Mazes
- Tangrams
- Block patterns
- Peg designs
- Geoboards
- Perfection, Memory, Concentration, Simon, Hokey Pokey, Blink, Guess Who
- I Spy
- Where's Waldo
- Spot the difference
- Hidden Pictures
- Letter and word searches
- Obstacle courses
- Map activities
- Tons of computer and smartboard games, apps, board games, pencil/paper activities, puzzle books

Accommodations that may help:

- Sit close to board/teacher
- Minimize distraction with a clean visual environment
- Use cleanest worksheet copies with whitespace around important areas
- Encourage clean desks/cubbies/boxes
- Use visual blocks – cut square out of construction paper to show just one math problem, use a reading strip to keep place on page, cut a worksheet apart and do it in chunks, fold part of a sheet away, put sheets or books in a file folder cut into strips
- Multisensory learning – rhythm/music/chants, chalkboards/crayons for kinesthetic feedback, movement with academics
- Use cues like a colored dot or arrows to indicate place on map, circle the instructions, highlight vowels or tricky spelling word combos, bold important words, use red for subtraction and green for addition, draw boxes around areas they are supposed to write in
- Highlight or color borders, boundaries, lines
- Have them write their answers on their own specialty paper
- Letter formation strips on desk
- Graph paper or lined paper turned vertically for math alignment
- Wear sticker or bracelet on right side to help right from left