

Visual Figure Ground

Visual figure ground is the ability to discriminate relevant information from a background that is 'busy' and contains irrelevant or distracting images or objects. We use this skill everyday e.g., finding clothes in a drawer and in reading, finding relevant letters, words and sentences from a busy background.

Implications of Poor Visual Figure Ground

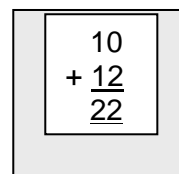
- Child may be disorganised.
- Easily distracted from a task.
- Difficulty with writing – difficulty recognising letter forms within words and proof reading work.
- Difficulty keeping place in book or from board.

Early Years Activities

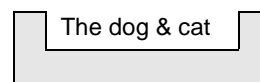
- Sorting, e.g., find blue button amongst a mixed box, finding a square amongst other shapes, finding a pig in a box of farmyard animals.
- Sorting cutlery.
- Activity books - find the shape and Puzzle Town.

School Age Activities

- Puzzle books - look for hidden objects.
- Underline or put a ring around specific words or letters in a text.
- Word searches.
- Where's Wally?
- Overlapping objects or shape pictures.
- Do not use textbooks that are too busy. Use a 'frame' to exclude unwanted distraction on a page.



- Use a reading marker or reading ruler to help keep place.



Contact details

Children's Therapy Services

Telephone number: 0300 019 2936

For further general health-related information, please ask the relevant department for an information prescription or contact:

Patient Experience
University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust
Longfleet Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2JB

Telephone: 0300 019 8499

www.uhd.nhs.uk

We can supply this information in other formats, in larger print or have it translated for you. Please call the Patient Experience Team on 0300 019 8499 or email patientexperienceteam@uhd.nhs.uk for advice.

If you wish to make any comments or to ask about any research evidence used to write this leaflet, please contact the Patient Experience Team on 0300 019 8499, write to the Patient Experience Team (address above) or email patientexperienceteam@uhd.nhs.uk

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