

## Visual Memory

Visual memory is being able to store and recall what you have seen; visual images of objects, shapes, symbols and movements. It usually develops between 6-12 months.

Children with poor visual memory may vocalise loudly or quietly whisper as they read or attempt to remember something to compensate by auditory means.

### Implications of Poor Visual Memory

- Difficulty recalling non-verbal experiences, things seen every day.
- Problems with remembering objects or pictures when removed from view.
- Remembering where something was last e.g. shoes, books etc.
- Remembering the correct sequence of letters in a word, although all the letters required may be remembered.
- Problems with left/right progression.
- Inaccurate copying and drawings lacking details.

### Early years Activities

- Kim's games – put several objects on a tray, look at them and then cover them up. Ask the child to remember what was there. Alternatively, take one item away then uncover the tray and ask them what is missing.
- Look at a picture for a few minutes and discuss it, then hide it and ask the child questions such as 'what colour was the balloon?'
- Have some toys that have matching pictures. Hide the toys around the room, then show the child one picture. Ask them to hunt around the room to find the toy in the picture.
- Look out the window and ask the child to remember three things, when not looking out the window. Alternatively, go for a walk and discuss, and describe things along the way.

### School Age Activities

- String bead patterns.
- Spelling activities – fill in the gaps.
- Card games – Snap, Pairs, etc.
- Kim's games – put several objects on a tray, look at them and then cover them up. Ask the child to remember what was there. Alternatively, take one item away then uncover the tray and ask them to what is missing.
- Looking at and observing things within the environment, e.g. objects in the child's bedroom, clothing that a person is wearing. Trying to recall it once it is not in view.

## 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:

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**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](mailto:patientexperienceteam@uhd.nhs.uk)**