Visual Sequential Memory

Visual sequential memory is the ability to recall a sequence of visual information, e.g. letters, numbers or objects. It is an important skill for learning, such as when reading or spelling.

Implications of Poor Visual Sequential Memory

- Remembering visual sequences, e.g. alphabet
- Reading and number work
- Copying information off the board
- Organising work
- Maintaining concentration and attending to a task
- Remembering a sequence of actions to complete a task

Suggested Activities

- Discussing the day’s events
- Collecting and packing items for school bag
- Copying a visual sequence of movements
- Games such as Simon Says
- Kim’s Game
- Underlining letter or number combinations in a given text
- Playing “I Went to Market” with actual items
- Sequencing games e.g. remembering a sequence of coloured beads on a string, covering it up and then trying to copy it from memory
- Card games
- Copying body sequences e.g. 3 hops forward, 1 jump back
- Activity books – word searches, complete the pattern
- Computer games
- Copying from a book or board

Contact details

Children’s Therapy Services
Telephone number: 01202 442936

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

The Health Information Centre
Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Longfleet Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2JB
Telephone: 01202 448003
www.poole.nhs.uk

Author: Rowena Johns  
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Head of Department: Gill Smith

We can supply this information in other formats, in larger print, on audiotape, or have it translated for you. Please call the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01202 448499, text 07758 272495 or email pals@poole.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 confidentially: phone 01202 448003, write to the Health Information Centre (address above), or email healthinfo@poole.nhs.uk.