



# Therakids

## ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF EDUCATORS AND PLANTING THE SEEDS OF CLASSROOM WELLNESS.

### VISUAL PERCEPTION AND INTEGRATION

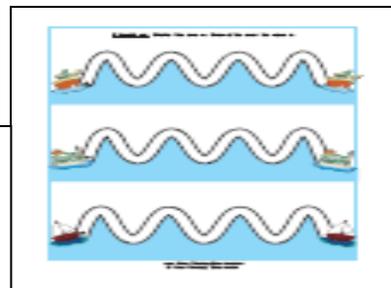
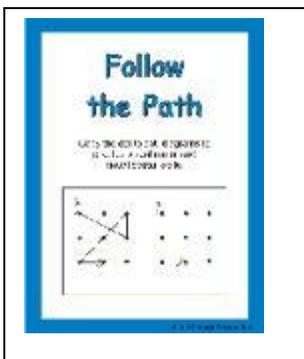
**Visual Perception** is the brain's ability to make sense of visual information. It can be separated into different skill areas. **Discrimination** is the ability to match identical shapes –important for copying and matching skills. **Memory** is the ability to remember visual information. **Form Constancy** is the ability to identify that two objects are the same regardless of size and placement. **Figure Ground** is the ability to find hidden objects like in “Where’s Waldo”, which can lead to misunderstanding the difference between like words (i.e. want and went). **Visual Closure** is the ability to match forms even if one form is not complete. A child who struggles with any of these skill areas may have difficulty identifying shapes, copying from a board, reading, matching, or shape and letter formation.

#### CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

- Find similarities and differences between two like pictures.
- Make a feely bag for the classroom, putting common items in a bag, asking the student to name the object by feeling and not by vision.
- Sorting objects according to shapes and size
- Place objects in front of the child, take one away and have them name the object.
- While reading, point to text in a left to right progression
- Throw object at a target (distance should be same as a desk to the chalkboard)
- Encourage use of direction (right, left, up, down, top, bottom)
- Tracing pictures in a book
- Imitating block design
- Games such as, Pick Up Sticks, Candyland, & Chutes and Ladders
- Activities such as Etch-A-Sketch or Lite Brite
- Matching and memory games
- Hidden pictures, mazes, dot-to-dot and coloring pages.
- Lacing activities

#### CLASSROOM TIPS

- Have the child sit in the first or second row.
- Pre-number paper
- Darken or highlight baseline
- Erase unnecessary writing from the board
- Teach the student to copy 2-3 letters at a time to encourage visual motor memory
- Good posture with paper in front of the body and feet on the floor
- Use natural light if possible
- Slant board or 3 ring binder sideways with paper on top
- Use consistent lingo in the classroom instruction
- Highlighter for tracing letters
- Ask your Therakids OT for a “Request for Assistance” form if you need more suggestions.



#### Suggested websites:

<http://www.yourtherapysource.com/freestuff.html>  
[www.eyecanlearn.com](http://www.eyecanlearn.com)