

Visual Processing Disorders Clinic

(formerly known as
Visual Stress Clinic)

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Referral process

- ▶ SEND asked to review a child regarding difficulties with learning
- ▶ Child is suspected of having visual difficulties e.g. complaining of blur / page moving / visual disturbances or slow / inaccurate tracking noticed or previous use of an overlay / referral requested by STT
- ▶ **BEFORE** referring ask for the child to be seen by an Optician if they have not been in the past 6 months
- ▶ If symptoms still present **and child aged 7yrs + SENCO** to fully complete referral form with parent's consent
- ▶ Email referral to new patient appointments:
- ▶ ulth.opthalmology-lincoln@nhs.net (please note the spelling is incorrect- email address was set up as this so please do not correct the word ophthalmology) - (ask for a read receipt)

Please note:

A child must initially be seen by an optician before a referral can be made. Minimum age for referral is 7 years.

NAME OF CHILD: _____ **M/F** _____
DATE OF BIRTH: _____
ADDRESS: _____
TELEPHONE: _____
SCHOOL: _____
SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____
GP: _____

Date of last sight test _____ **this must be within the last 6 months**

Does the child / young person display signs of the following :

Skipping words / lines ? YES/ NO
Page blurring / words moving / visual disturbances? YES/ NO
Finger tracking (child aged > 8 yrs)? YES/ NO
Slow reading speed? YES/ NO
Previous use of overlay? YES/ NO
Sequencing difficulties / confusing letter order in words / substituting
Visually similar words? YES/ NO
Any other information?

Parents/ guardians are aware of this referral and agree to an assessment being carried out and the results being shared with relevant professionals.

Signed:

Parent/ Guardian
SENCO
Print SENCO Name Date _____

Site to be seen (*please delete*) : Lincoln / Boston / Spalding / Grantham

Please email form to: ulth.opthalmology-lincoln@nhs.net (please note the spelling is incorrect- email address was set up as this so please do not correct the word ophthalmology).

On the first visit a full Orthoptic Assessment is carried out to rule out any ocular motility, refractive or accommodative cause for the difficulties

- ▶ If any defect is found the patient is asked to come back for a full Ophthalmological assessment.
- ▶ Any treatment required for VA / binocularity / focussing is then completed prior to a Visual Processing Assessment

Visual Processing Assessment

Tracking

- ▶ DEM Test
- ▶ Wilkins Rate of Reading

Use of colour

- ▶ Selection of coloured overlay
- ▶ Wilkins Rate of Reading

Developmental Eye Movement Test

2		5	9		4		3		
4	5			2	7		8		
3			5		7	4	9		
8		7		9		5	7		
3	7				1		4	5	
6			1		4		6	2	
9	3		7	2				6	
7		2			4		6	3	
6	3	2		9				1	
7				4		6	5	2	
5		3	7			4		8	
4			5		2			1	7
7	9	3			9				2
1			4			7		6	3
2		5		7			4		6
3	7		5			9			8

come see the play look up is cat not my and dog for you to
the cat up dog and is play come you see for not to look my
you for the and not see my play come is look dog cat to up
dog to you and play cat up is my not come for the look see
play come see cat not look dog is my up the for to and you
to not cat for look is my and up come play you see the dog
my play see to for you is the look up cat not dog come and
look to for my come play the dog see you not cat up and is
up come look for the not dog cat you to see is and my play
is you dog for not cat my look come and up to play see the
see the look dog and not is you come up to my for cat play
not up play my is dog you come look for see and to the cat
look up come and is my cat not dog you see for to play the
my you is look the dog play see not come and to cat for up
for the to and you cat is look up my not dog play see come
you look see and play to the is cat not come for my up dog
come not to play look the and dog see is cat up you for my
and is for dog come see the cat up look you play my not to
dog you cat to and play for not come up the see look my is
the come to up cat my see dog you not look is play and for



Treatment

Tracking difficulties

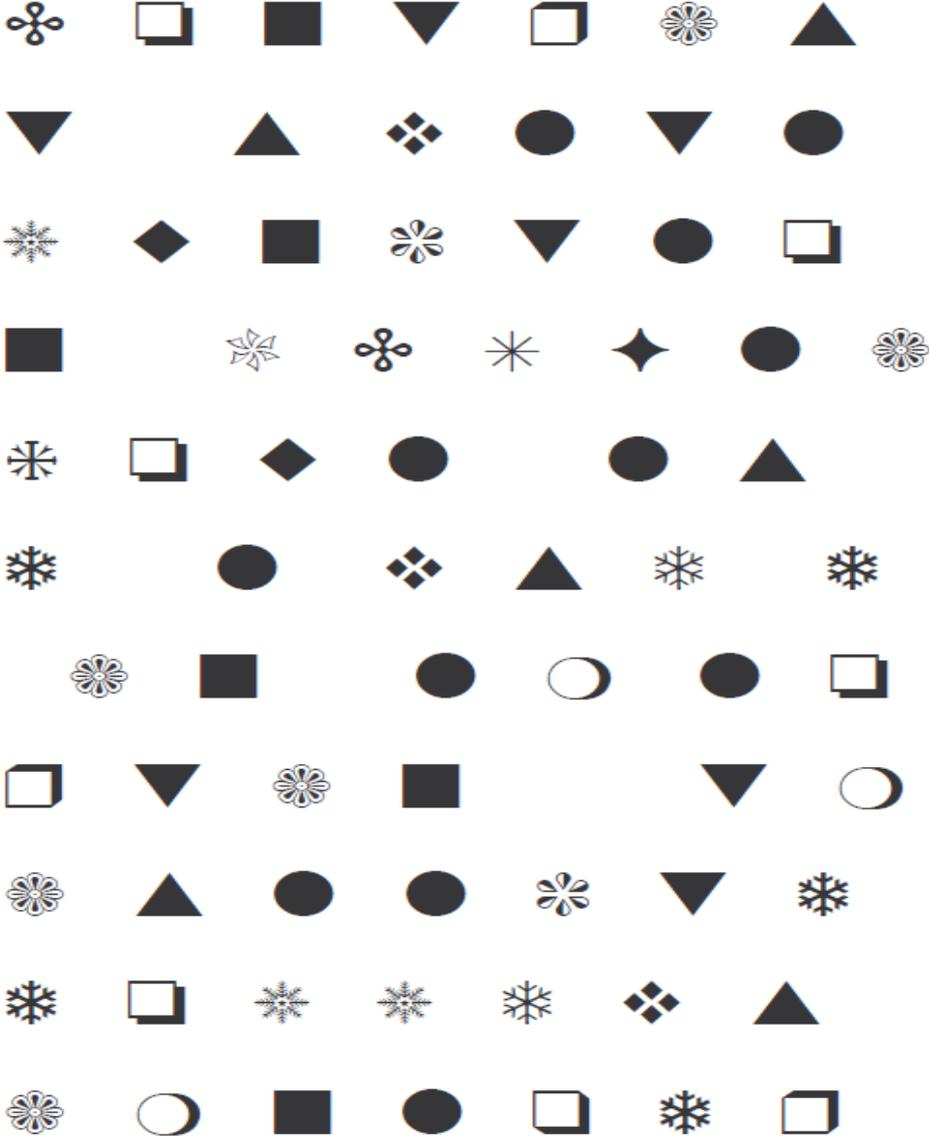
- ▶ Rainbow Reader Tracking Exercises Programme

Need for Colour

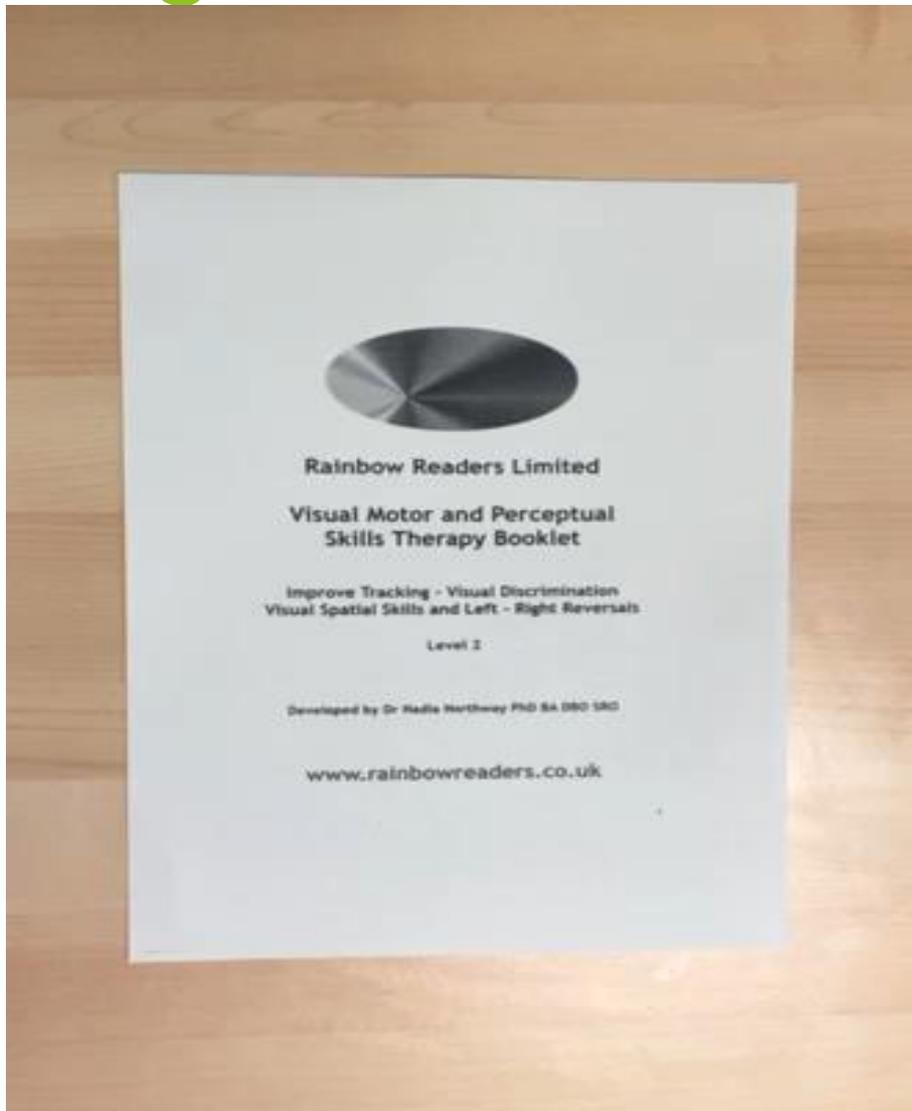
- ▶ Give appropriate overlay if 15% improvement in speed or significant improvement in tracking

If further Visual Perception difficulties are suspected a TVPS may be carried out and further Visual Perception Exercises issued as appropriate

Rainbow Reader Tracking Exercises



Tracking Video



Audit Results

Number of New Patients sent for Pilgrim Team

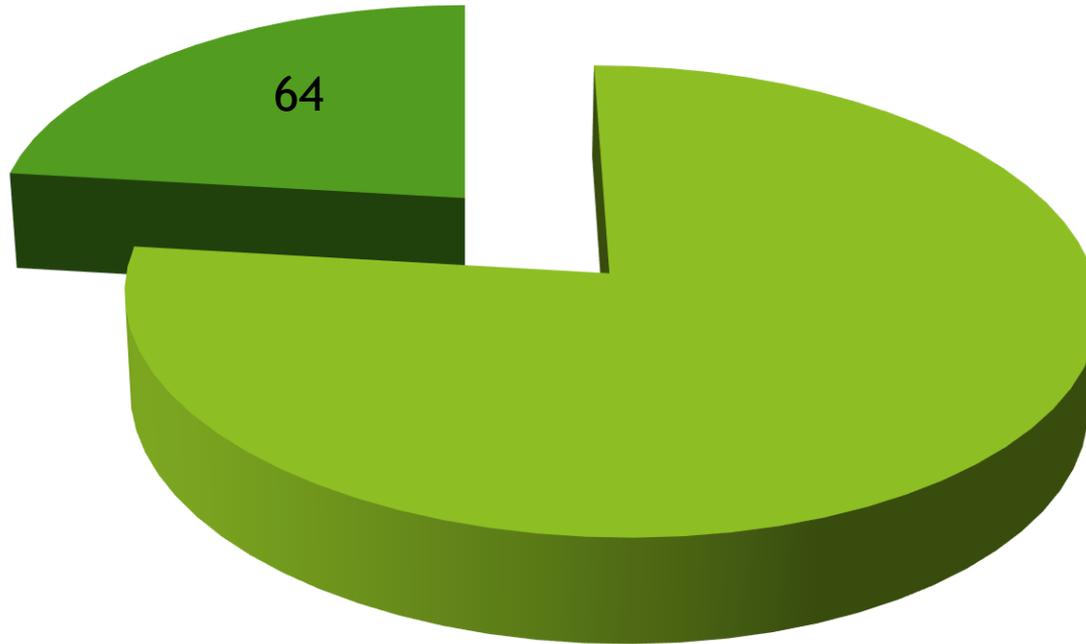
2022 = 415

2023 = 563

2024 = 428 (24 % less patients sent for than in 2023 but with 40% reduction in staffing levels due to long term sickness and leavers)

2025 = 364 (further reduction in patients seen but continued staffing issues as above)

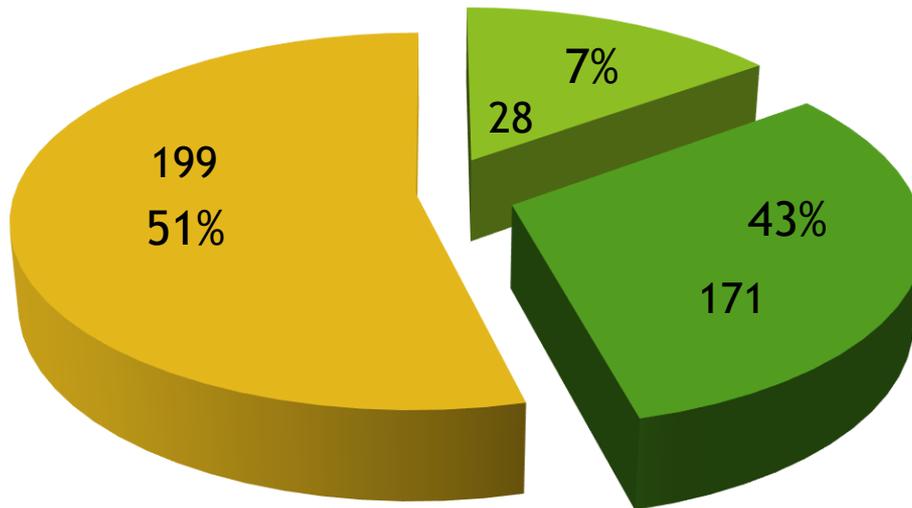
Attendance at first appointment 2025



■ Unable to attend on the day/
Was not brought
18%

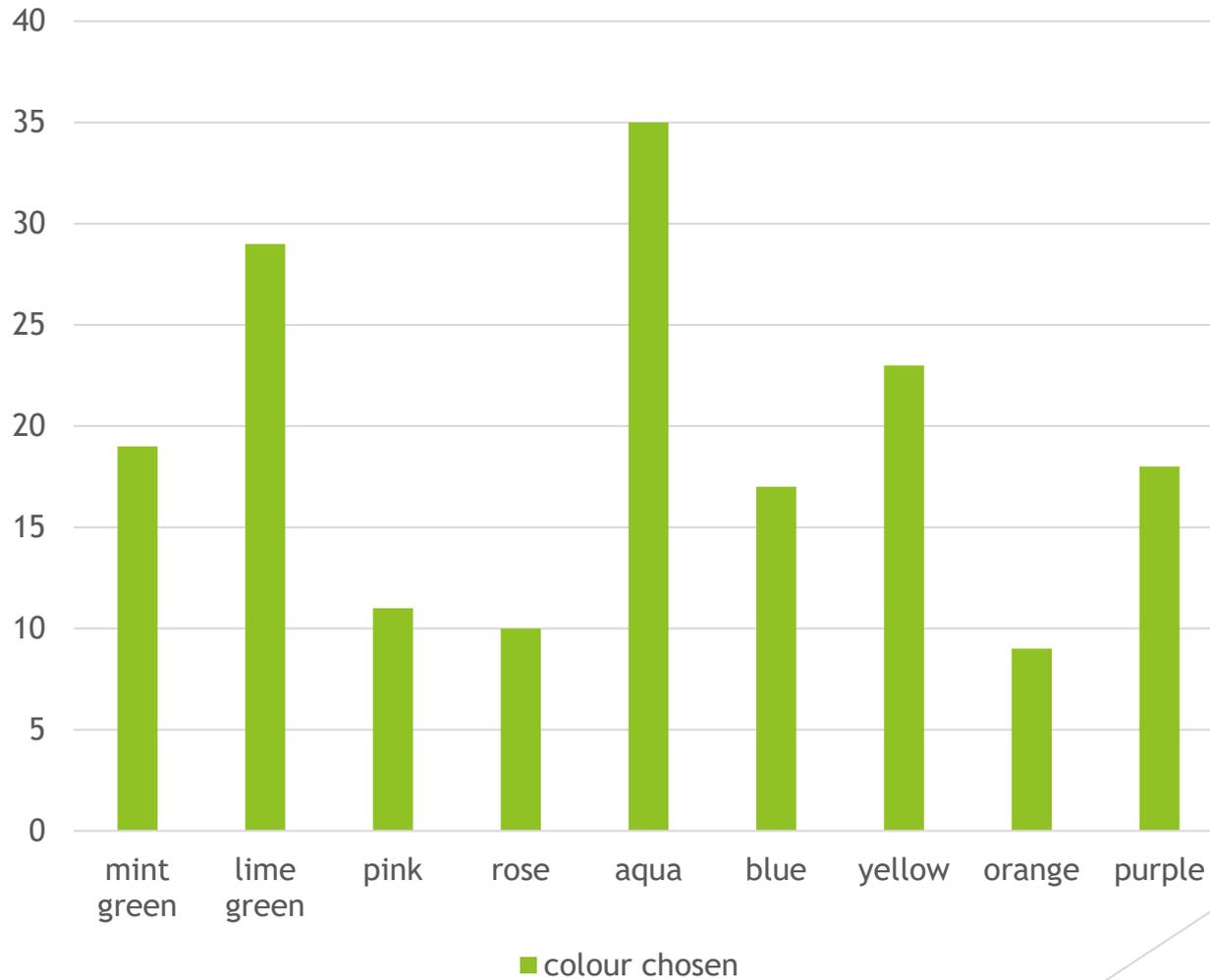
Analysis of data 2024

334 patients

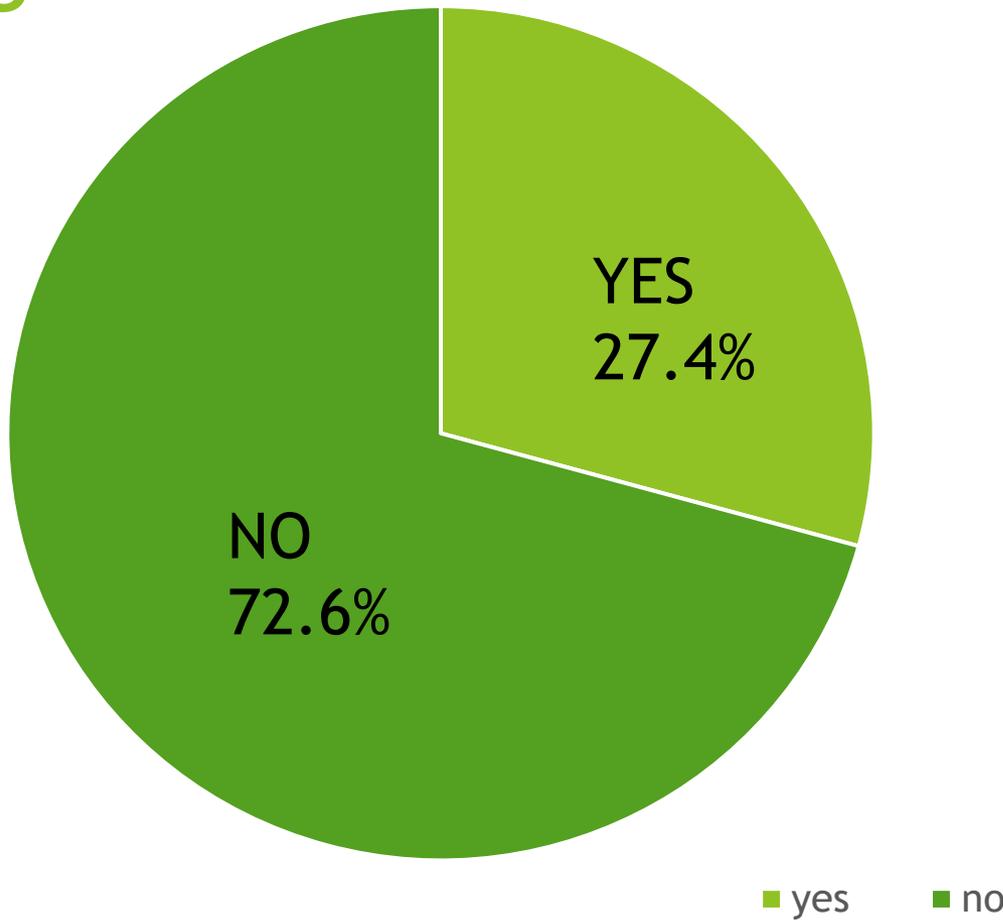


- Referred to Ophthalmology
- Colour indicated
- Tracking defect

Colour chosen



No. of patients requiring TVPS



Visual
Discrimination

Visual Memory

Visual Spatial
Relationships

TVPS

Test of visual perception skills

Visual Form
Constancy

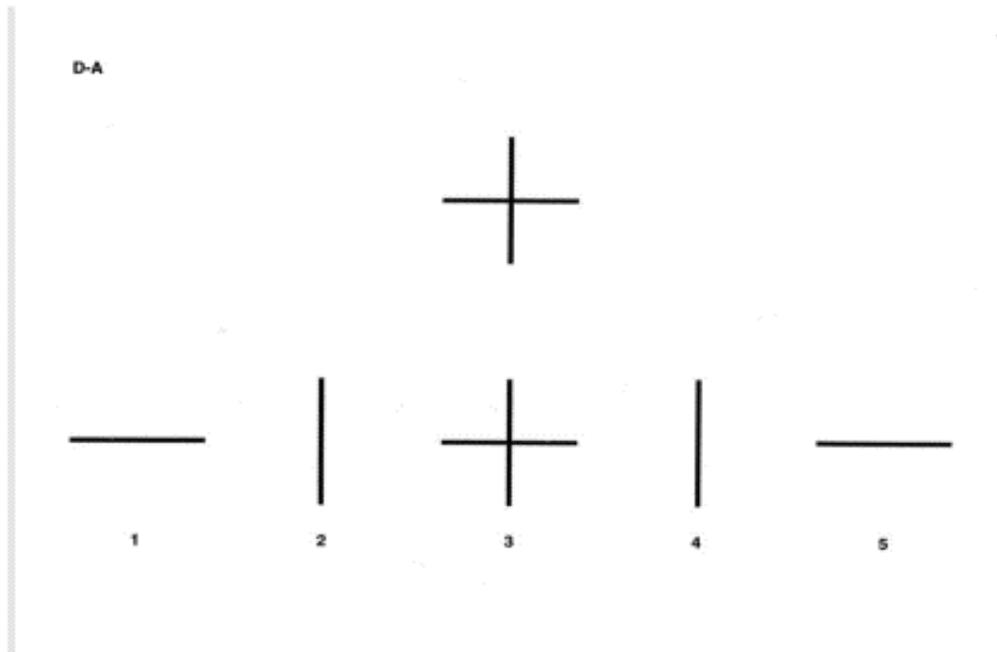
Visual
Sequential
Memory

Visual Figure
Ground

Visual Closure

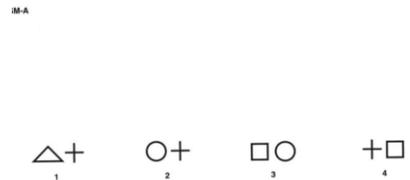
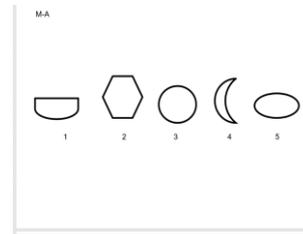
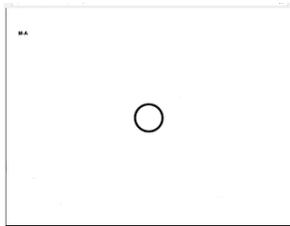
Visual Discrimination

- ▶ Ability to find objects of the same shape
- ▶ “ can you find one that is exactly the same as this? “
- ▶ Problems with sight word vocabulary / recognising visually similar words



Visual Memory & Sequential Memory

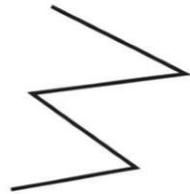
- ▶ Ability to remember a single or series of objects
- ▶ “which one did I show you?” / “ you need to remember not only the shapes but also what order they are in “
- ▶ **Problems developing sight word recognition & spelling**



Visual Figure Ground

- ▶ Ability to distinguish an object from the background regardless of its presentation / orientation
- ▶ “can you find where this shape is hidden?”
- ▶ **Difficulty with smaller print/different fonts or cluttered / busy work sheets**

FC-A



1



2



3



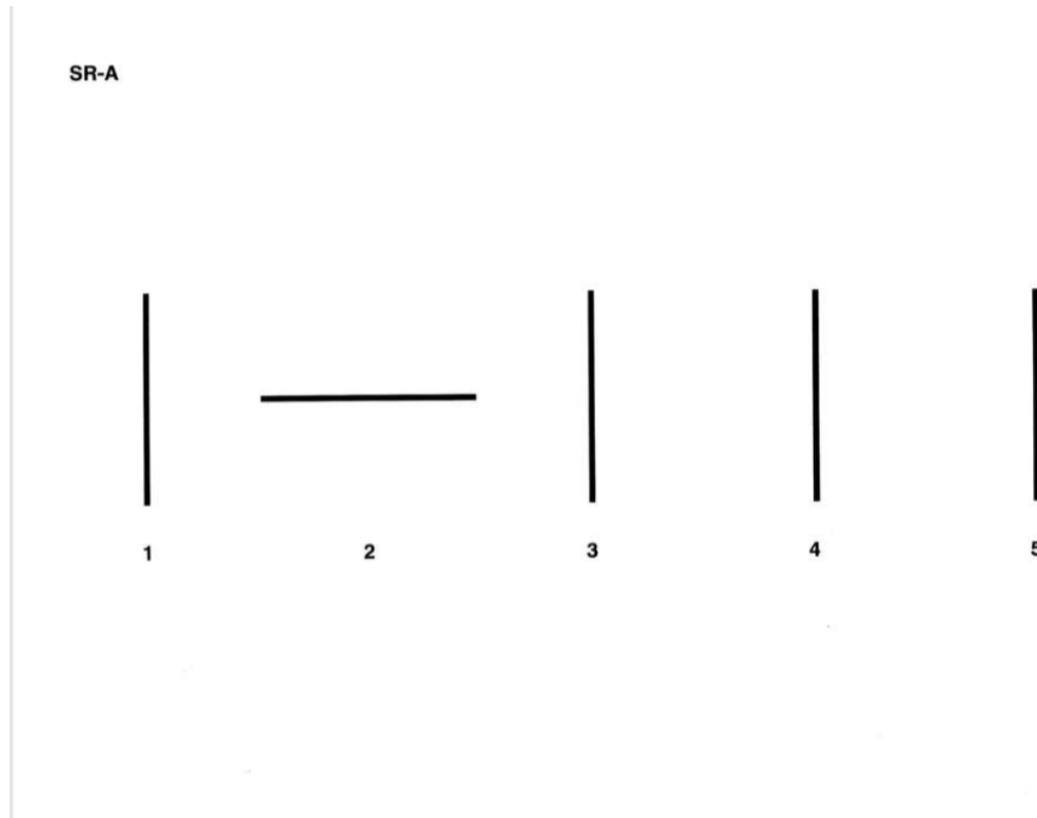
4



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Visual Spatial Relationships

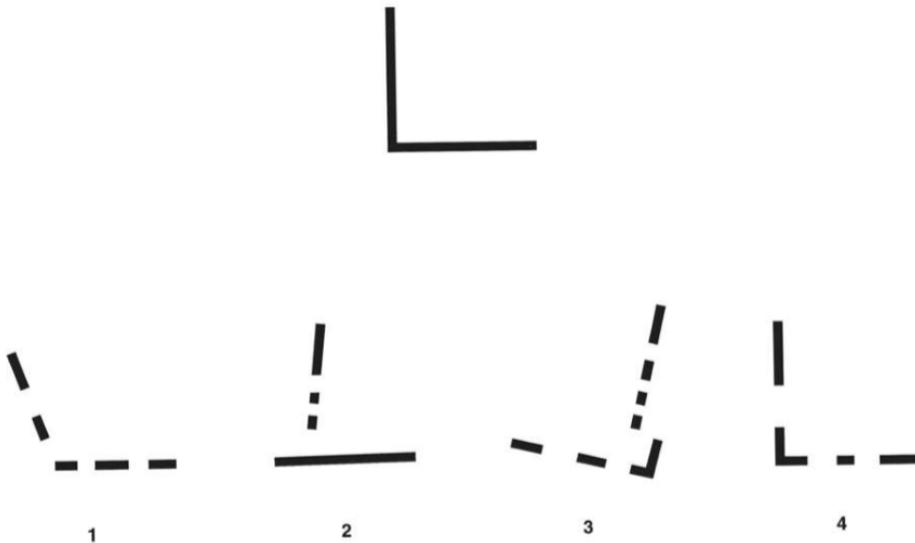
- ▶ Ability to determine the odd one out
- ▶ “ which one looks different to the rest?”
- ▶ **Problems with letter reversal, writing, spotting errors**



Visual Closure

- ▶ Ability to interpret information when it is incomplete
- ▶ “ if you joined all the gaps what shape would it make?
Remember you can't move the lines”
- ▶ **Problems with reading fluency and speed**

C-1



Any Questions?



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