

HIRSTWOOD MULTISENSORY TRAINING

FUNSHEET NUMBER - 6. VISUAL STIMULATION

VISUAL STIMULATION IS ABOUT PRACTISING WITH THE SENSE OF LOOKING. THIS SOUNDS SIMPLE BUT FOR SOME ITS REALLY NOT. YOU WERE NOT BORN WITH ALL YOUR VISUAL SKILLS, YOU HAD TO LEARN THEM THROUGH VISUAL STIMULATION. IN OTHER WORDS LOTS OF LOOKING!

IF YOU ARE WORKING WITH A STUDENT WITH A VISUAL LOSS OR ANY DIFFICULTY WITH VISION THEN 'LOOKING' NEEDS TO BE FUN. SO FIND SOMETHING THE STUDENT MAY WANT TO LOOK AT!

AWARENESS, FIXATION AND TRACKING ARE ALL SKILLS WHICH NEED TO BE ENCOURAGED. DON'T FORGET TO WORK AT THE STUDENTS OWN PACE. GIVE THEM TIME TO RESPOND TO THE VISUAL STIMULUS. KEEP THE SESSIONS SHORT BUT KEEP THEM REGULAR.

YOU MAY BE BEST WORKING IN DARKER SPACES, BUT IF YOU DON'T HAVE A DARK ROOM THEN COVER A SMALL BROLLY OR PARASOL WITH BLACKOUT MATERIAL AND WORK INSIDE. BIG CARDBOARD BOXES WORK AS WELL BUT IT GETS WARM IN THERE.

REMEMBER THAT WHITE WILL REFLECT LIGHT WHICH IS GREAT FOR PROJECTORS AND COLOURED TORCHES. BLACK SOAKS LIGHT IN SO WILL BE THE BEST SURFACE FOR FIBRE OPTICS AND MOST FLUORESCENT UV THINGS. WHEREVER POSSIBLE TRY TO CREATE GOOD COLOUR CONTRASTS. REFLECTIVE HOLOGRAPHIC WRAPPING PAPER WILL BE FUN FOR BOUNCING A TORCH OR FLASHLIGHT.

ITS OKAY TO GIVE TACTILE AND SOUND PROMPTS. REMEMBER VISUAL STIMULATION IS NOT A CURRICULUM SUBJECT SO WHEN READING STORIES IN MIXED ABILITY GROUPS SEE IF YOUR BOOK GLOWS UNDER U.V. AND TELL THE STORY IN THE DARK.

USE LOTS OF VISUAL PROPS FOR CURRICULUM OR SOCIAL SKILLS SUBJECTS.

WWW.HIRSTWOOD.COM



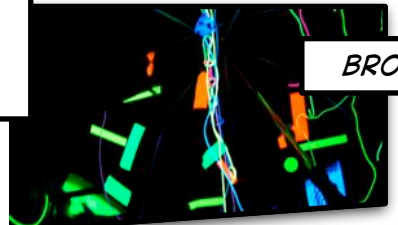
WHATEVER YOU ARE USING, MAKE IT FUN!



MOVING LIGHT WILL ATTRACT ATTENTION



A 40W UV MAKES THINGS ABOUT 40 TIMES BRIGHTER



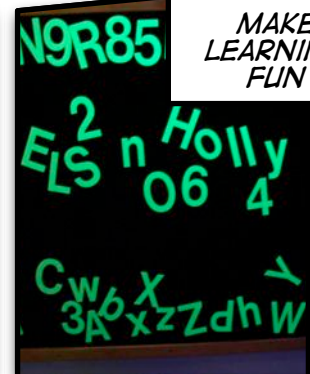
BROLLIES



CREATE GOOD COLOUR CONTRAST



USE DARK ROOMS



MAKE LEARNING FUN