

Visual Motor Integration

What is it and why is it important?

Visual Motor Integration (VMI) is the effective, efficient communication between the eyes and the hands. It allows us to incorporate visual information and motor sensory information for both gross and fine motor movements. VMI is important for skills including writing, self-care and sports.

Implications of poor VMI.

- Difficulties with forming letters and drawing shapes.
- Difficulties with personal care tasks such as doing up buttons or tying shoe laces.
- Difficulties using scissors or building models.
- Poor spacing of words and letters.
- Difficulties staying in or on the line.
- Cannot recognise mistakes.
- Poor posture when writing.
- Poor organisation.
- Finds PE related activities difficult e.g ball skills, team games, apparatus work.
- Tests poorly even when they know the subject.



Visual Motor Integration activities

Jigsaw puzzles	You can provide as much assistance as required initially, whilst allowing them to place the puzzle pieces in the correct place.	
Cut out shapes	Begin with more simple shapes with short straight lines. Progress to cutting shapes with curved lines. You can use the shapes to make a picture.	
Origami	Developing both fine motor skills and visual motor integration. Start with simple origami designs and progress from there. You can find origami activities here: http://www.origami-instructions.com/simple-origami.html	Su 1 Su 2
Dot to dot and mazes	Completing dot to dot and maze worksheets	
Tracing	Tracing pictures in books using tracing paper	
Stringing beads	Stringing beads onto a string. Encourage children to copy a specific pattern. For example colours in a specific order.	