SECTION 5

Visual

Memory

Ideas and Suggestions to help you support your child with Dyslexia at home

Difficulties with Visual Memory

Children with Dyslexia may often have problems with remembering what they have been shown.

They need to be shown ways to help their visual memory and to support this weakness by using their auditory (listening) memory.

Visual Memory Difficulties

Many types of activities may help your child to develop a better visual memory.

Activities may help with:
- Concentration
- Attention to detail
- Ordering
- Accuracy
- Reading and spelling
- Handwriting
- Faster recall

Looking activities to improve visual memory skills

- Dominoes
- Find the missing part – create simple pictures of everyday things with parts of the pictures missing (e.g. doll with one arm, table with only three legs) and ask the child to identify what is missing. To do this the child has to recall visual images of the relevant objects.
- Kim's game – an array of familiar objects on a tray. The child scans this for a few seconds (or whatever period of time is appropriate), cover the tray and ask the child to name all the objects they saw from memory.
- What's wrong here – uses pictures of everyday things with parts of the pictures wrong (e.g. house with the door halfway up the wall; person with feet pointing backwards) and ask the child to identify what is wrong. To do this the child has to recall the visual images of the relevant objects.

- What's missing – provide a tray of objects for the child to look at. Ask the child to close his eyes. Remove one or two objects from the tray. Ask the child to open their eyes and say which objects they think were removed
- Look together at a picture – Cover the picture and ask your child questions about it. E.g. "How many children were in the picture?" "How many people were wearing hats?" "Was it winter or summer?
- Odd man out – Draw several related pictures and include a 'stranger' e.g. apple, pear, book plum. Ask the child to point the 'odd man out'.