



Foundational Learning Skills

For Reading and Comprehension



Presented by



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Foundational Learning Skills

- Human learning does not take place on a single level but is stratified.
- Everyone needs the same foundational skills to learn.
- Foundation: natural or prepared ground or base on which some structure rests



Before Learning: Remembering

To *Remember* we must have a working process to store information into memory and retrieve that stored information when it is needed.

Components of most thought

Picture



Sound



Feeling



Thought

- Input
- Storage
- Retrieval

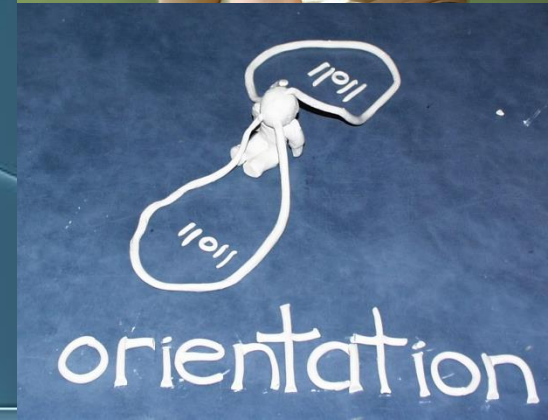
*We are not covering smell and taste as very few people store academic information using smell or taste



INPUT

(Reception)

- Attention
- Concentration
- Perception
 - *Orientation*
 - *Disorientation*





Spatial Relationships & Perception

1. Focused attention
2. Concentration: sustained attention
3. Perception: perceiving through sensory processes by stimuli internal or external

Continued next slide



Spatial Relationships & Perception

4. Perception *is simply*: translated sensory information
5. Orientation *is simply*: correctly translated sensory information (what you think you see your eyes are seeing)
6. Disorientation *is simply*: incorrectly translated sensory information (what you think you see your eyes are NOT seeing)



Sensory Perception Critical for Academic Learning

- Aural
- Haptic – Tactile/Kinesthetic
- Visual





STORAGE

- Buffer Memory
- Working & Short-term Memory
- Long-Term Memory



Memory

- **Buffer Memory 0-3 seconds: unfocused attention**
- **Working memory 3+ seconds: while processing takes place & solving problems**
- **Short-term memory 3+ seconds: rote memory**
- **Long-term memory: stored information**



RETRIEVAL (Output)

- Utilization – Understanding
- Output - Expression





FOUNDATIONAL READING SKILLS

Reading: combination of many Skill Levels

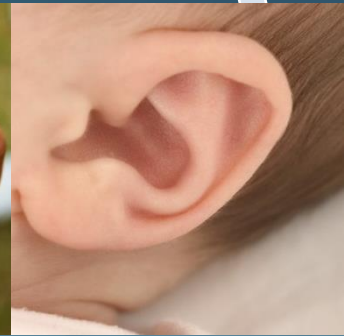
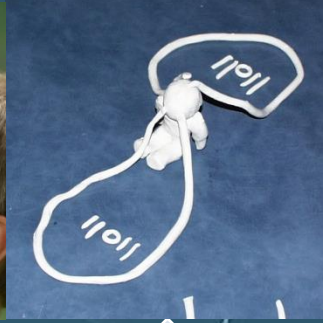
- **Level One: Reception**
- **Level Two: Perception & Discrimination**
 - Visual
 - Haptic
 - Auditory
- **Level Three: Spatial Relationships, Spacing & Symbolism, Verbal Skills**
- **Level Four: Organization of Thought**
- **Level Five: Comprehension**



Level 1

Reception

- Level One
 - Reception
 - Attention
 - Concentration
 - Perception
 - Visual
 - Haptic
 - Auditory





Level 2A

Visual Perception & Discrimination

Observation Skills

- Discrimination
- Memory
- Sequential Memory
- Understanding to give Meaning



Simultaneous Discrimination

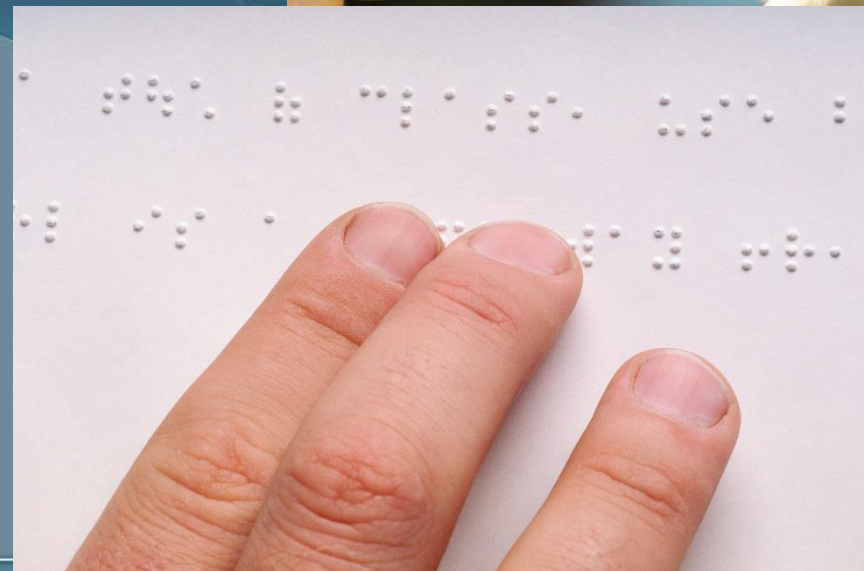
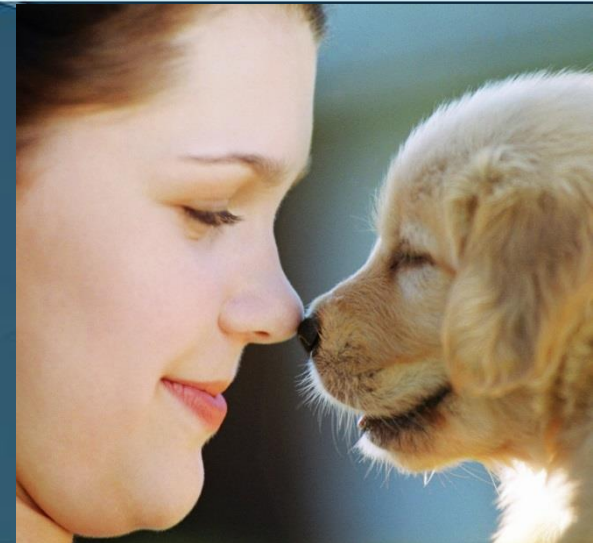
Figure-ground
Foreground/background
Form consistency
Color
Shape



Level 2B

Haptic Perception & Discrimination

- Discrimination
- Memory understanding





Level 2C

Auditory Perception & Discrimination

Listening Skills

- Discrimination
- Memory
- Sequential memory understanding



Simultaneous
Discrimination

Rhythm
Timing
Sense of Time



Level 3A

Spatial Relationships & Spacing

- Left to right progression
 - Knowing left from right
- Eye-hand coordination
- Directions in space
 - Directionality
- Judgment in space – motor planning & sequencing

U n N Z ft



Level 3B

Symbolism

Verbal Skills

- Vocabulary
- Comprehension – understanding concepts expressed in symbols & words
- Verbal reasoning

Visual Skills

- Recognizing the oneness of objects, symbols, words, as separate identities
- Understanding that a mark or a pattern represents an idea




Level 4

Organization of Thought Order

- Ability to sort information
- Appropriateness
 - What belongs
 - What's missing
- Ability to recognize parts that make up a whole
- Recognize Sequences



Classify
Categorize
Label



small	first	beginning
big	next	middle
bigger	last	end



Level 5

Comprehension

- Storage in long term memory
 - Retrievable for speaking
 - Retrievable for writing



FOUNDATIONAL READING SKILLS

- **Identifying weaknesses**
 - Skips word(s)
 - Skips lines
 - substitutes after punctuation
 - inserts word(s)
 - transposes letters in word(s)
 - reads haltingly
 - transposes words
 - changes ending of word(s)
 - stumbles over word(s)
 - adds word or letter from above or below the line



FOUNDATIONAL READING SKILLS

- The effects on reading
 - *exhibits fidgeting*
 - *rhythmic motions*
 - *stop & abrupt subject change*
 - *jerking body part*
 - *frowns or looks confused*
 - *excessive swallowing*
 - *Exhibits anxiety*
 - *Breathing changes*
 - *Hesitations*



LEARNING STYLES

Processing

- Visual Spatial
- Verbal Sequential
- Emotional Feeling
- Combinations

Modalities

- Visual
- Auditory
- Kinesthetic
- Combinations



Processing



The man in a
black hat paints
a fly on the
sidewalk.





Cognitive VS Associative Tasks

- **Cognitive Task:** When the mind can do one and only one directed task at a time.
- **Associative Task:** When the mind can do 2+ directed tasks at a time.
 - **Creating Associative Skills**
 - Frequency
 - Duration
 - Intensity



SPATIAL AWARENESS

- What it is
 - knowledge of the location of things (their size, position & area) in the immediate surroundings relative to one's location.
- Identifying weaknesses
 - appear clumsy, uneven letters
 - The effects on reading



SPATIAL AWARENESS

- The effects on reading
 - letters seem to move on page
 - words change
 - punctuation disappears
 - low or no comprehension
 - order of information is skewed



FOUNDATIONAL LISTENING SKILLS

- What they are
 - To perceive and process sound without distortion; locate spatial origin of sounds and focus auditory attention.
- Types
 - Receptive Listening focuses outside of self, relative to what others are saying; what is going on in a school setting, or home.
 - Expressive Listening focuses inside self, including: checking, monitoring and reproducing correctly what one hears, especially one's own voice and speech.



FOUNDATIONAL LISTENING SKILLS

- Identifying weaknesses
 - Has difficulty listening and paying attention
 - Misunderstands spoken information, directions, or questions
 - Has trouble hearing likenesses and differences in sounds
 - Auditory digit span low
 - phonemic awareness low
- The effects on reading



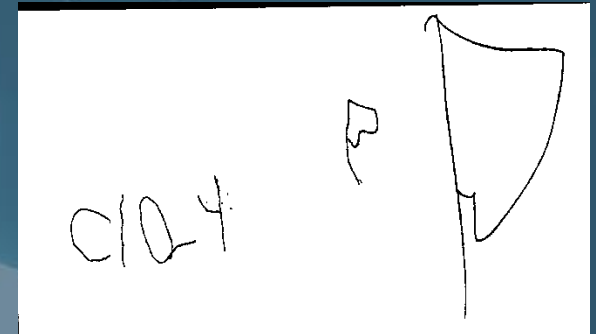
FOUNDATIONAL LISTENING SKILLS

- The effects on reading
 - short auditory digit span =
difficulty decoding phonetically,
pronounce words incorrectly, last
sound first, often middle sounds
are dropped



FOUNDATIONAL WRITING SKILLS

- What they are
 - Strength & flexibility of hand & fingers
 - Accurate creation of symbols
 - Translation of thoughts into symbols
 - Spelling
 - Grammar
 - Punctuation





Presentation Sources

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The Power of Sound, Joshua Leeds

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Webster's Dictionary

Meadowbrook Educational Services client records