



# One of These Things Is Not like the Others: Visual Discrimination in Pre-K

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Visual discrimination refers to the skills needed to identify differences in objects such as shape, color and size, and sort objects based on those observations. Many times an activity like this will require a child to find which object or picture in a group does not belong. Children need to use a variety of skills in order to look at a group of objects and decide which one is different from the rest. This video will help a child form a basic understanding of how to identify objects that are a bit different than the others:



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Your child needs to be able to focus and concentrate on an object or picture long enough that they are able to spot the differences. This skill may seem like just fun and games, but it is critical to your child's development. Visual discrimination is what allows children to detect differences between letters and numbers as they build early literacy and numeracy skills. Here are a few simple activities that you can do with your learner to support the development of visual discrimination:

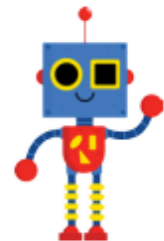
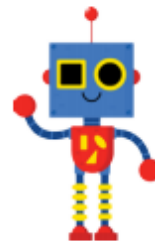
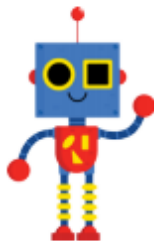
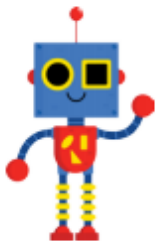
- Puzzles – supports discrimination and matching of shapes
- Hidden picture books – requires focus

- Matching games – encourages focus on similarities and differences
- Tracing – improves concentrations

In addition to those ideas you can also encourage your child to identify objects around them and the characteristics they notice. For example, while reading a book, ask them to identify things on the page that are the same and different. Once they identify things that are different, ask them to explain what is different about the pictures. You can also make clean up fun by asking them to sort their art supplies based on color or type (crayon or marker).

# Which One is Different?

Which picture is not like the others?  
In each row, draw a circle around the correct answer.



This fun activity requires your child to notice differences in a group of four similar images, encouraging focus and concentration. As your child does this activity, encourage them to name the items and the colors that they see. When they notice a difference help them to verbalize and explain why it is different.

# Find the Difference!

Which picture is not the same as the others? Circle the picture that is different.



This is another great activity that encourages your child to look at objects and find differences. This activity requires them to discriminate based on color, size, shape and details. Work with your child to ask them what they notice about each item in order to help them decide which one is different from the rest. Encouraging the use of communication skills while doing an activity like this develops deeper understanding.

Visual discrimination truly is one of the building blocks of early learning. Children enjoy investigating their world, so encourage them to touch, lift, smell and explore while noticing similarities and differences.

There are many more activities to keep your child engaged in learning. Use our Catalogue below to guide you!

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