

Light Box Activity Guide

Level 1



Goal: Awareness and Localization of Objects

Activity 1

Once the child displays attention to light and the ability to localize it, you may begin to teach the concept of an object as a blockage of light. Turn on the Light Box; draw the child's attention to it. Then totally block the light by placing an opaque cover over the Box—a carpet sample, the Light Box cover, piece of cardboard. Have the child touch the material. As you perform the activity, verbalize about it. Repeat the activity, requiring the child to increase the length of time he attends. Gradually decrease the size of the object blocking the Light Box. Be creative in the materials you use—a giant cookie, favorite stuffed toy, a cup, small candies or cereal. Allow the child to touch and explore the objects. Experiment with the level of illumination as well, noting with which sizes and at which intensities the child functions. (If a child has a constricted visual field, it may be easier for him to locate small objects.) (ibid., 106–111).

Activity 2

An object may also reflect light. Present a variety of reflective objects— an unbreakable mirror, shiny L'Eggs® container, silver Mylar® balloon, tinsel, reflective plastic sheeting in a variety of colors (available from Dick Blick, see address p. 25). Also introduce fluorescent items, such as those contained in the APH Let's See Kit (Catalog Numbers: 1-08141-00 and 1-08151-00). Draw the child's attention to

Goal: Awareness and Localization of Objects (continued)

them by shining a light on them in a darkened room or by using black light with the fluorescent items. Gradually increase the illumination of the room, and require the child to attend for longer periods of time.

Activity 3: Plexiglas Blocks/Threading Beads/Tumblers

Introduce brightly colored translucent and transparent objects to the child, as well. In many cases, these may look like colored light rather than objects. Used on the Light Box, they are bright, contrasting, and attractive to most children. For this reason, many colored transparent objects are included in the Level I Kit and are used for a wide variety of tasks. Present one of the items to the child and draw her attention to it.

Activity 4: Tumblers

Place one or more tumblers on the Light Box as an interesting visual display. Drop the threading beads or other small items into the tumblers to draw the child's attention to them.

Activity 5: Plexiglas Blocks

Spin the small and large circles like a coin to draw the child's attention.