



I'm Starting School – Visual Discrimination

The activities in this book are designed to help train young eyes to really pay attention to what they are looking at.

Visual discrimination is the ability to recognize details in **visual** images. It allows students to identify and recognize the likeness and differences of shapes/forms, colours and position of objects, people, and printed materials.

Practising activities that develop visual discrimination is a vital step in your child's pre reading development. You simply can't do enough of this kind of work with your child before they start learning to read.

Imagine the word "look" - now change that 2nd "o" to a "c". Can you see now why it's so important to train young eyes to pay attention? The whole word has changed - we don't want your child to miss these small but significant changes as they start reading. A full stop looks very much like a comma doesn't it?

To get even better value from this activity book, don't use pencils or crayons at first - just use a finger to point out which one is different in each set of activities.

Then, when you are ready to use pencil or crayon, sit with your child at a table and work through a page together. This is a perfect opportunity to consolidate concepts - same, different, bigger, smaller.

Encourage your child to understand that when we do activities like this we go from left to right across the page, and from top to bottom of the page. We take this concept for granted don't we? You'll need to guide your child with this.

Encourage your child to focus on persevering with and completing a whole page at a time - this is really important because this is what will be expected of your child when they start school!

Don't overload your child by trying to do the whole book in one go - one or two pages at a time is plenty.