

Bridging Technique for Auditory and Visual Processing Activities



After client is experiencing 75% accuracy on the first try for several weeks, he is ready to try the next level. If the next level is not achieved by the third try, the client may need to “bridge” to help him reach the next level. Give the same number of digits that he has mastered, (for example, let's say he is currently on 5 digits) when the client repeats those 5 back to you, praise him, then give the same 5 numbers, adding one more on the end for a total of 6 numbers (applies to both visual and auditory). This is called a bridge.

When the client is experiencing 75% accuracy on the 5-6 bridge, begin giving him a few 6's in between the 5-6 bridge, eventually fading out the 5-6 bridge all together so that you are only giving him 6's. At this point he may need the series of 6 digits repeated several times to be successful, which is completely normal when advancing to a higher level.

Never bridge more than one number at a time. For example: "7, 2" followed by "7, 2, 4", followed by "7, 2, 4, 1" is called "chaining" and is detrimental to increasing functional processing.

Remember a move from 5 digits to 6 digits represents one full year's improvement. It typically takes 3 to 4 months to go up one digit. Be positive and congratulate the client on his efforts during each session.

Tips for Boosting Processing Ability:

“Brain games” (ADS and VDS activities discussed in this handout) are a great way to build processing ability. However, you might be interested to know that there are other ways to boost the scores! Immediately before doing a processing activity, try these two things: drink eight ounces of water (the brain is mostly water) and take three long, slow, deep breaths. The rush of oxygen raises alertness and improves brain function.

Eliminating sugar on school days helped raise my girls' scores!—Ruth Young. Jana Loomis, an LGS certified neuro-educational specialist, eliminated refined sugar and white flour from her diet for a few months and her processing scores improved dramatically.

Twenty minutes of aerobic exercise at least three times a week gets the blood pumping and increases oxygenation to increase processing ability, too. Tanda Trussell, a teacher for eighteen years in the Texas Panhandle, always did one minute of cross pattern movement (like cross march, cross skip, army crawl or cross creep to “wake up” the brain) right before playing brain games with her first grade students so they could do their very best.

Listening to recorded books or stories can improve auditory processing ability.