

Understanding Visual Perceptual Skills in Children

Expressions of Interest
3 days – Sydney – Semester 1, 2011

The workshop will provide participants with an opportunity to study visual perception and visual perceptual deficits that are commonly found in children with learning difficulties, including children with disabilities such as autism or Aspergers syndrome and intellectual impairment.

Visual perception will be examined from a theoretical, neuroscience and occupational performance perspective. Suggestions for methods of assessment and intervention within the context of school occupations will be presented.

Session 1

Role of visual processing in occupational performance, characteristics of visual processing, arousal and alerting visual behaviours, discriminating and mapping visual behaviours, Integrated visual functioning, vision as information processing; neural explanations of visual perception.

Session 2

Visual attention, indicators of dysfunctions, regulatory functions of visual behaviour, automatic visual orientation, visual orientation and arousal, visual scanning, difficulties with visual scanning, selective visual attention, intervention for scanning and attention, visual fixation and vigilance, neural model of visual scanning and attention, the eye movement control system, assessment - case observation.

Session 3

Pattern perception, visual recognition, visual recognition for handwriting, visual matching, application to intervention, visual distractors, application to intervention, visual discrimination, categorisation, detecting relationships, visual sequencing, visual memory, visual/verbal coding, visual kinaesthetic coding, neural model of pattern perception.

Session 4

Visual processing for motor planning and control, visual control of movement in space, visual spatial cognition, visual control of arm movements, spatio-temporal orientation, vestibular-ocular-proprioceptive triad, topographical orientation, assessment and intervention implications, object focused spatial ability, spatial analysis, constructional analysis, drawing and copying, neural model of visual spatial organisation, assessments and case examples.

This workshop is suitable for occupational therapists.

Arrival tea/coffee, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided.

About the Presenter

Dr Chris Chapparo PhD, DipOT is widely recognized on an international level for her contribution to occupational therapy through her teaching, research and community service activities and she has received various awards for her work.

Dr Chapparo has interests in cognition, management of sensory/ motor problems in children and adults and occupational therapy theory. She is the co-author with Judy Ranka BSc (OT) MA, of Occupational Performance Model (Australia). Dr Chapparo is a founding member of Sensory Integration International and the Australian SI Faculty and she is a neurodevelopmental therapy instructor. Her research interests lie in the areas of children's information processing and social participation.

Expressions of Interest are sought for this event. Please contact Zi Mei Events on (07) 3847 8375, info@zimei.com.au or visit our website www.zimei.com.au for further information.