



SMART KIDS WHO HATE TO WRITE

Introduction

- * The brain model for understanding how students learn
- * Crossing-the-midline as vital for easy processing of information
- * How bright children can have processing problems
- * How a processing glitch can make a child appear "lazy" or uncooperative

Visual/Motor Processing (the child's ability to "think and write at the same time")

***DIAGNOSIS** -Learn to check for signs of "stress" in a child's writing system

- Hates to write...or takes so long to do
- Mixed dominance (eye and hand on opposite sides of body)...we never change dominance!
- Frequent or occasional reversals in letters or numbers (after age 7)
- A right handed child who makes his "o's" clockwise, like a left hander
- Makes many letters from bottom to top (vertical reversals)
- Copying takes a long time and is very labor intensive
- Does all math problems mentally to avoid writing them down
- Writing looks sloppy and child is often considered lazy
- Great stories orally, but writes very little
- In math, lining up numbers in multiplication or division is difficult
- Presses hard when writing
- Teenagers who avoid writing at all costs
- Mixes capital and small letters in writing

Early Signs of Visual/Spatial Problems (can be corrected with easy midline therapy)

1. *Difficulty identifying left and right easily*
2. *Learning to ride bike much harder*
3. *Difficulty skipping (can gallop)*
4. *Difficulty going down stairs using alternate feet*
5. *Difficulty learning to tie shoes*
6. *Fine motor problems*

***CORRECTION**

- Establish the midline of the body as a "bridge" instead of "barrier"
- Use the "midline spatial" exercise to reduce the stress in a child's writing system
- This exercise helps a child "internalize" directionality
- Improves eye/hand coordination for sports...coaches love this exercise!
- The exercise, done daily, begins to show improvements in handwriting ease in 3 months, but needs to be continued for a minimum of 6 months to transfer to the right, automatic brain hemisphere.

*This very effective daily writing exercise, and other helpful learning exercises are available in the Brain Integration Therapy Manual. Or, for a visual demonstration of the midline spatial exercise with all ages of children, and with groups, get the DVD, Smart Kids Who Hate to Write. . Dianne offers many products and teaching tools on her website to make learning so much easier for your struggling learner at home! More info: www.diannecraft.org
Download Dianne's FREE DAILY LESSON PLANS FOR A STRUGGLING WRITER AND SPELLER!*