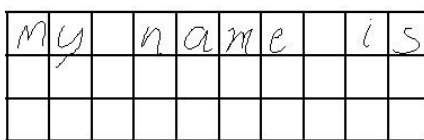


Helping Students with Motor Planning Challenges in the Classroom

Also known as Motor Dyspraxia or Developmental Coordination Disorder

Writing

- Use paper specific to their needs, we suggest wider lines or coloured dotted thirds to encourage accurate placement of letters and correct formation of letters. Graph paper may also be beneficial for some children to help with spacing between words.



- Use a slant board to write on or a slanted surface. You can use a large binder book if you do not have a slant board.



- Use a suitable pencil for the child. This may be a large triangle pencil or a specific grip. We recommend 'The Crossover Grip'.



- Minimise the amount of writing needed to be completed.
- Allow the student to type or have a scribe for longer tasks.

Visual-Spatial

- Have the student sit closer to the board.
- Minimise classroom distractions.
- Use visual schedules in the class and on the student's desk to encourage them to complete a task and follow instructions.

Processing

- Allow additional time for the student to complete work.
- Provide frequent breaks. Movement' breaks are highly recommended as many students with dyspraxia may have low muscle tone.
- Give directions slowly. Directions should also be one or two step directions and very short and direct. For example, "bag then shoes".



Planning

- Break down tasks into smaller, simple steps.
- Use hand over hand assistance and auditory cues to teach a new skill. For example, when teaching a new letter guide their hand through the movements saying "up, down, round....".
- Provide checklists or visual instructions for longer tasks.



For PE class

- Use lots of hand over hand assistance.
- Move their body part through the action, adding auditory cues, for example whilst lifting their arm say "up and throw" as you push their arm forward.
- Break down tasks into simple steps, with short and direct instructions.

Please contact us for more information on how we can assist your child.

<https://baobabtherapyforkids.com.au/>