

Fun Ways To Improve Your Child's Non-verbal Reasoning Skills

The best initial preparation for non-verbal reasoning tests involves a lot of activities that should be started long before the test date. This is because non-verbal reasoning tests your child's intelligence and that takes time and training to build up.

1 Good Concentration

Nurture good concentration in all the things they do and encourage them to build up longer periods of concentration. Help them by reducing distractions such as background noise.

Concentration is an important life skill that can be learnt very effectively through play. These games and activities will help your child's concentration improve; puzzles of any kind including jigsaws, playing Jenga™ and making card towers. Make sure your child does these (or similar) activities as part of their daily play routine.



If you think your child needs encouragement to concentrate more or try harder, you can use this simple exercise to **demonstrate to them how concentration and effort have a major effect on how well they do things.** Get a ball and simply play 'catch' with them - you'll easily be able to prove to them that when they concentrate their catching improves dramatically.

2 Clear Logical Thinking to Understand Questions and Work out Answers

Training your child to understand new instructions should be part of their practice for non-verbal reasoning tests. The better the questions are understood, the better the questions will be answered.



In the real test your child may encounter some new types of questions. For this reason, **quickly understanding exactly what the question is asking is a key skill to master.** By following our tips your child will be able to adapt well to the new types of questions they have not seen before.

These games will help your child learn to think clearly and logically; Draughts, Chess, Cluedo™ and Mastermind™. The process of learning the rules of these games (with your help) is also valuable practice for your child.

Draughts is a great game to start young children on as early as age five. When they are ready, they can progress to playing Chess. Play with your child as often as you can, ideally aim to play once a day. For the rules of Draughts see this website www.compendia.co.uk/draughts.htm. An excellent book designed for children to read and learn Chess themselves is, "Chess for Children" by Murray Chandler (available from amazon.co.uk).