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Suggested Interview Questions:

What exactly is a “visual-spatial learner?”

A visual-spatial learner is someone who thinks in images, not in words. They are able to see the whole picture and not necessarily the parts. These students, *and adults*, are brilliant in their ability to solve complex math problems, produce creative solutions and they show remarkable scientific ability. But, because they don't learn in a sequential, step-by-step manner, many of them fall through the cracks in a school system that insists on teaching Step A, followed by Step B, followed by Step C...

How can a teacher or parent know if a child is a visual-spatial learner?

Do they love puzzles? How about Legos, K'nex, or other construction toys? Do they remember what they see but forget what they hear? These are all indicators of someone who learns visually. Also, visual-spatial learners tend to have a terrible time with phonics, spelling and organization but they excel in geometry, physics and reading comprehension. While their desk may look like a disaster to most, they know exactly where everything is!

Why is it important to know if someone is a visual-spatial learner?

Because these students have amazing abilities that are going unrecognized in classrooms that value the ability to master phonics, keep organized, and learn step-by-step. *At least* one-third of the population fits this profile! Many of these students go through school believing they are not capable of continuing to college and they never realize their full potential. It was a visual-spatial learner that created the computer and the Internet, the vivid displays at the Olympics, and the International Space Station! How can we afford *not* to identify them?

What can a parent do to help a visual-spatial learner?

Make sure you present new material visually. Use pictures to get across your idea, not just words. If they can see it, they can remember it. Use humor, that's their strength! Use anything that involves hands-on experiences including construction, manipulatives, and movement. Get their attention by talking louder, faster, or with gestures – be silly! And, use the computer. Computers teach visually and at a pace they can control.