

Rick Lavoie

Tips for Parents - Get the Picture

November 2002

Many kids with LD have difficulty with the skill of REVISUALIZATION. This prevents them from calling up a picture into their mind's eye. For example, if I say "Eiffel Tower" you can automatically recall what the Parisian landmark looks like by "picturing it" in your mind. This perceptual weakness makes it difficult for LD kids to spell because they are unable to "picture" the correct formation of the word in their mind.

A lack of revisualization will also prevent the child from cleaning his room correctly because he is unable to picture the finished product (the clean room) in his mind as he attempts to complete the process of cleaning. This is comparable to attempting to complete a jigsaw puzzle without first knowing what the finished puzzle will look like.

The solution? Get the room clean and orderly and take photographs of the room from several angles. Post the photos on the child's bulletin board for him to refer to during the cleaning process. This strategy compensates for his inability to revisualize...and prevents the weekly "...and don't come out until that room is clean" battle.