

Activities for Using a Monocular

With Preschool/Elementary School Students

1. Use a monocular for observing moving targets: birds, animals, children on the playground, kites, traffic, bubbles.
2. Find toys "hidden" around the classroom or outside in several different places.
3. Find specific aisles and products in the grocery store.
4. Play a (Velcro) dart game or go bowling. Use the monocular to tally scores.
5. Use an overhead projector to check and develop focusing skills. Allow children to manipulate the focusing knob.
6. Tape pages of a picture book along a wall and use the monocular to view pictures and tell the story.
7. Encourage monocular use at concerts, plays, and sporting events; during story time; and on field trips.
8. Have children observe your facial expressions from a distance with the monocular and mimic them.
9. Teach copying by preparing activities on one-inch ruled chart tables that are portable. Some interesting items to copy include poems, limericks, tongue twisters, instructions to a recipe or a science experiment, sentences pertaining to an amusing topic, and novel or unusual formats (columns, crossword puzzles, fill-in-the-blank).

With Middle School/High School Students

1. Identify license plates and makes and models of automobiles.
2. Identify musical instruments in a band or orchestra on stage.
3. Identify signs in stores in a mall and locate signs for a particular type of product.
4. Visit an airport or bus station and read departure/arrival postings.
5. As a passenger in an automobile, assist the driver by locating specific street signs and location information when the vehicle stops.
6. Visit a college class and observe the visual requirements; use the monocular to view overheads and instructor notes.
7. Locate a particular player in a spectator sports event.
8. Visit a museum or art gallery and practice viewing items and information in glass cases.
9. Make a chart that compares speeds of copying material from an overhead or chalkboard, and compare reading speeds weekly over several months.

Source: C. Cowan and R. Shepler, "Teaching Techniques for Teaching Young Children to Use Low Vision Devices," 1990, *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 84 (9), 419-421.