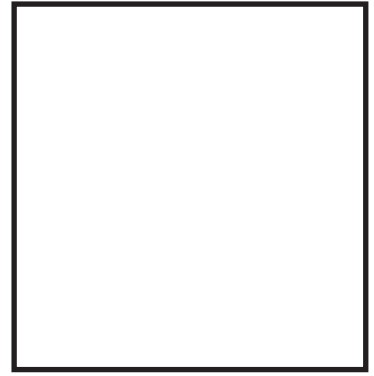


My Memory Profile



Name:

Year:

School:

My strengths are:

-
-
-

You can help me by:

-
-
-

I'm learning how to:

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-
-

Tips on Using The Seven Magic Tricks for Memory in the Classroom

If at all possible, involve parents to help generalise the pupil's memory strategies at home through home-school news books, games and activities. Not all children will benefit from all the Magic Tricks - allow the child to choose which are the most helpful in different situations.

Magic Trick 1 - Focus.

- engage the child's attention by saying their name
- introduce the topic content before you start giving instructions or information
- encourage the child to tell you if they don't remember
- when giving information tell everyone which things they need to listen for and remember
- use 'Who, When, Where?' prompts to aid recall and help the child to structure their narrative

Magic Trick 2 - Rehearse.

- use picture sequences to aid recall and give the child a copy to take with him/her
- when the child's is able, ask him/her to repeat any instructions you give
- give information at a slow rate to allow time for retrieving, processing and producing responses
- encourage the pupil to ask for information to be repeated.
- provide daily practice of spellings, number bonds and times tables, etc.

Magic Trick 3 - Groups.

- use short sentences in easy to follow sequences that are to the point
- repeat what you have said using several synonyms to overcome any vocabulary difficulties
- use a dialogue with the pupil so they are verbally rehearsing material.
- chunk long complex instructions or explanations into a number of smaller ones

Magic Trick 4 - Picture It.

- use multi-sensory approaches such as simple drawings to support the pupil
- use laminated bookmarks with iconic drawings or key words to help the child to remember things, e.g. equipment they need for different lessons. Ensure these are always kept in the same place
- plan the layout of the classroom and keep it that way with everything in the same place.

Magic Trick 5 - Maps.

- introduce essential vocabulary at the beginning of any new topic using mind maps
- practical experience and role play also help the pupil to remember new vocabulary and information about a topic

Magic Trick 6 - Links.

- use Colour Coding, Gestures (Jolly Phonics), Story Links (Letterland), Alliteration, Geometric shapes or any combination of these when teaching letters and numerals
- mnemonics can help to enable recall such as using an action as in Jolly Phonics, Action Words for reading and spelling, Dance routines for stories and sequences and acronyms
- use visualisation, put words to a rhythm or using stories that link items together

Magic Trick 7 - Your Magic Spell.

- help the child generalise the memory strategies they have already developed
- ask the child to identify when it would be useful to use their Magic Tricks. Encourage them to think about a number of different situations when each trick might prove useful.
- use some of the memory games in groups and in the classroom
- give homework tasks to practise the use of the new strategies.