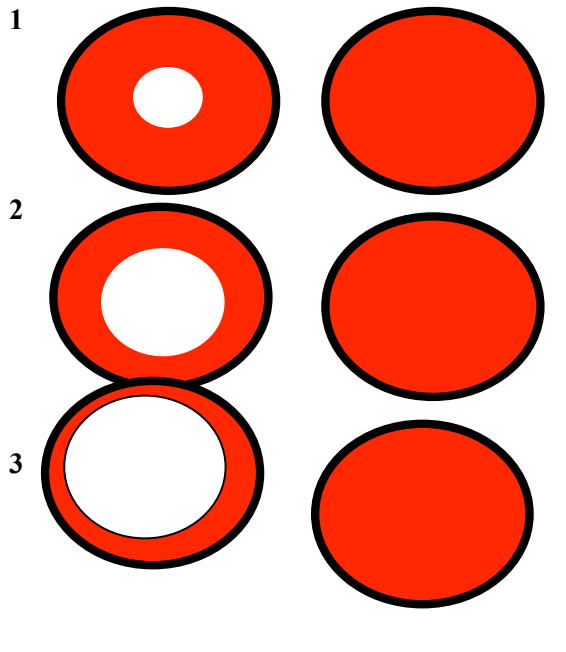


Many children with autism find coloring a difficult task and those teaching often find it difficult to clearly demonstrate the target. Coloring has two objectives, 1. To color the spaces without color and 2. To stay within the lines. Therefore, it is best to begin with one target at a time.

Step 1

The concept of coloring:

Begin with a small area for the child to color. Remember to keep the activity, 'short and sweet' in order to maintain motivation. Present any shape which is completely colored other than one portion and prompt your child to color until that particular area is too fully colored. Once your child is consistently coloring the space which is void of color, systematically increase the amount which requires coloring.



Step 2

Staying within the lines:

In order to teach this skill it is necessary to create a border which is not only visual but tactile. Therefore, it is recommended to use a raised glue border or a template of sandpaper for the child to color within. Systematically the border may be reduced until age appropriate.

