

Thinking Style and Personality

Thinking Styles:

Concrete fashion

Registers info with senses -- Wants concrete proof -- Doesn't like hidden meanings.

Abstract fashion

Likes to visualize and understand things they can't see -- Doesn't always need to see it physically to believe it

(One above will combine with one below to produce personality)

Sequential fashion

Allows their mind to organize things in an orderly fashion

Random fashion

Organizes in a totally random fashion, but is still organized to them -- Able to skip complicated processes without missing anything

Personality Combinations:

Concrete sequential

Sometimes considered negative, but very practical -- Sometimes considered bossy. Not always discerning -- Likes to make and follow charts and lists -- Likes rewards

Abstract Sequential

Loves to learn, doesn't care about rewards -- Tends to evaluate everything, although it takes them longer to do a task -- Wants problems resolved, not ignored -- Wants to know why about everything -- Always has a better idea than you -- Very organized

Concrete Random

Has to experience everything themselves with their five senses -- Risk taker -- Very unpredictable -- Loves challenges -- Rules are guidelines, not orders -- Very strong-willed -- Ultimatums don't work -- Passionate about convictions -- Loves to have fun -- Will do it anyway, simply because you said no, to find out why.

Abstract Random

Picks up on nonverbal clues ó Peacemaker -- Doesn't like rejection -- Always wants to please -- Struggles with schedules -- Permissive, but are firm on important issues -- Cares about people -- Not into studying and school -- Takes punishment and discipline very personally.

Styles of Understanding

Environmental Preferences

People have their own style of getting things done
Some like complete silence while working -- some like music
Differing temperatures can affect concentration
Eating during school can help concentration
Morning or evening can work better for people

Perceptions

Auditory perception:

Learns best reading aloud and repeating things -- Has to process verbally
Easily distracted by other sounds -- Tends to blurt out answers
What helps them learn: Songs, Jingles, etc

Visual perception:

Likes to see and watch -- Makes pictures in their mind -- Different colors help them learn -- Learns well in auditory situations by doodling and keeping their hands busy -- Daydreams if no visual aids

Kinesthetic perception:

Can only sit still for about 10 minutes, but still learns while moving -- Needs to be physically involved -- Has shorter attention span -- Keeps their body busy to keep their mind focused.

The Way You Understand

Analytical:

Doesn't like to repeat -- Does well on tests -- Does best on step-by-step exercises -- Easily overwhelmed on large jobs -- Doesn't like being interrupted

Global:

Tend to pile things up when working -- Does best when you tell them the overall goal, then teach them the steps

Suggestions:

- Define what needs to be accomplished and taught.
- Treating people equally does not always mean treating them the same.
- Stretching and tests make us stronger.
- Focus on natural strengths, not weaknesses.
- Don't put a label on your children; many have a combination of learning styles.
- Work with your child in the way he/she was created, not the way you were.