

Similarities and Differences

More Guided Discussion

Ensure that answers are not simply negations. For example, for the question, "How are a comma and a period different?", the answer "One goes in the middle of a sentence, and the other doesn't," should generally not be accepted. Also, simple comparatives may not be acceptable, such as "one is smaller than the other." Negatives and comparatives may be considered as building block skills for children having difficulty with other skills even with multiple modality cueing.

Guided Practice Ideas

Quick Drill

Ask questions, such as the following. Provide answers when necessary. Go back afterwards and re-ask questions that have been missed.

For Identification of similarities, ask:

Which two of these are body parts?	elbow, stapler, foot
Which two of these are vegetables?	chocolate, corn, lettuce
Which two of these are seasons?	summer, winter, January
Which two of these are round?	guitar, globe, clock
Which two of these are reptiles?	lizard, panther, snake
Which two of these have a face?	child, paper clip, cat
Which two of these have letters?	grass, the alphabet, a book
Which two of these have borders?	states, Mars, countries
Which two of these have directions?	maps, fractions, compasses
Which two of these are bright?	sun, basement, flash
Which two of these ring?	telephone, bell, mouse
Which two of these hold things?	sack, money, scale
Which two of these measure?	picture, ruler, scale
Which two of these magnify?	binoculars, telescope, graph
Which two of these are extinct?	mammoth, dinosaur, cougar

For labeling similarities, ask:

How are pants and shirts alike?
How are Snow White and Mickey Mouse alike?
How are a verb and an adjective alike?
How are a bicycle and an automobile alike?
How are a computer and a calculator alike?
How are a jar and a bucket alike?
How are an apartment and a house alike?
How are a recipe and building blueprints alike?

For labeling differences, ask:

How are green beans and apples different?
How are 2 and A different?
How are purple and a rectangle different?
How are North America and China different?
How are buildings and bulldozers different?
How is the atmosphere and the ground different?
How are air conditioners and heaters different?
How are a prefix and a suffix different?