WHAT IS SHAPE CODING?

An explicit way to teach grammatical rules in the areas of:

- argument structure
- syntax
- morphology

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Uses shapes and colors to explicitly teach grammatical rules
- The Shape Coding system underlines individual parts of speech with the basic colors of the Color Pattern Scheme

Red: Nouns/Pronouns
Orange: Subordinating Conjunction
Yellow: Verbs
Pink: Det/Posessive Pronouns
Purple: Coordinating Conjunction
Blue: Preposition
Green: Adjectives

- Arrows are added to the underlines to denote past, present, or future tense
- Shapes are used to differentiate subjects from objects within the sentence
- Shapes can also be used to show the type of sentence (What, How, When, Where), clauses, and phrases

Example:

Mary is walking the dog in the park

WHO NEEDS IT?

Individuals with DLD

WHY?

- Difficulty with implicit learning
  o Deficits in expressive and receptive grammar skills
- Respond well to EXPLICIT learning

IS IT EFFECTIVE?

Below is a participant with DLD’s progress using Shape Coding from a study done by Calder et al, 2018

T1 & T2 BEFORE SHAPE CODING
T4 & T5 AFTER SHAPE CODING

HOW CAN I USE IT?

- For more information about Shape Coding, research Susan Ebbels, the creator and researcher behind the efficacy of the system.
- Download the Shape Coding app to use in therapy by scanning this QR code

RESOURCES
