

# Same / Different: Lucere Align

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## Learning Concept: Experiencing “Same” and “Different”

### Core Goal


Help the student *notice* and *feel* the difference between items that are the same in key features vs. those that are different — not just through visual similarity, but through hands-on, meaningful interaction.

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## Suggested Experience Design

### 1. Touch-and-Match Stations (3–5 min cycles)

#### Setup:

- Use bins or trays labeled with a visual cue () to indicate a sorting or pairing task.
- Fill with **tactile objects** (e.g. soft vs. bumpy balls, warm vs. cool stones, squishy vs. firm items).
- Each pair should include:
  - One pair that is “**same**” in feel and look
  - One pair that is “**different**” in a meaningful way (e.g. texture, weight, temperature)

#### Flow:

- Adult models picking up one object, exploring it with exaggerated gestures (smell it, rub it on cheek, tap it).

- Offer two options: "Which one is *like* this one?" 🖐️ 👁️
  - Celebrate both the *reach* and the *notice* 🎉 — not just correctness.
- ⌚ Keep the cycle short. One “match” per round, then move on or reset with a dramatic “let’s mix it up!” 🧺
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## 2. Movement Match Game

### Setup:

- Place large objects or visuals around the room (e.g. colored mats, shape cutouts, textured pads).
- Objects should be in **sets**: some the same, some clearly different in shape/feel/use.

### Flow:

- Adult starts by walking to an object, placing a hand or foot on it: “I found *this one!*”
- Then models scanning and “searching” for another that’s the *same*.
- Invite the student to “find one like mine!” and move with them toward the options.
- Use dramatic cues (“This one... is squishy... is that one squishy too?”)

👣 Incorporates large motor movement and offers non-verbal ways to express understanding.

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## 3. Mirror Me: Same or Different?

### Setup:

- Use objects the student enjoys handling (e.g. two favorite cars, spoons, scarves).
- Sit together with one set each.

### Flow:

- Adult models an action with an object (e.g. spins a toy, taps spoon on knee).
- Student either *mirrors exactly* or explores their own version.
- Afterward, adult gently asks: “Did we do it the same? Or different?” with exaggerated tone and visuals.
- Celebrate all effort: “We both did it! Let’s try a twist!”

👉 Helps connect physical imitation to cognitive comparison. The adult’s response tunes the emotional tone — no right/wrong, just curiosity.

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## Success Loops and Co-Regulation Tips

- 🧸 Keep pairings familiar before introducing novelty — anchor “same” in safety.
  - 🌈 Use high-contrast differences (e.g. smooth vs. prickly) at first to reduce ambiguity.
  - 😊 Validate noticing, not just matching: “You touched both — you checked them out like a scientist!”
  - 📷 Use photos of previous matches to reflect later: “We found two the same last time — remember?”
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## Extension Over Time

- Gradually introduce visual-only pairings after physical ones (e.g. two photos of soft items).
- Use **real-world matching**: “Are these two shoes the same?” “Are these two snacks the same?”
- Co-create a “same/different” journal with photos or items the student has matched over time.

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**AI Prompt Template (eg. in OpenAI - response results may vary):**

I am supporting a student in a special education setting.  
They learn best through individualized structure, physical interaction, and relational safety.

I want to introduce or explore a learning idea — not as abstract content, but as something  
\*\*experienced, noticed, and made meaningful\*\* by the student.

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### The concept I'd like to explore is:

- [x] other: helping the student experience \*\*\*"same" and "different"\*\*\* through concrete, multisensory comparison

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### Student Learning Profile

how\_the\_student\_receives\_information:

- [x] uses visual input (e.g. photos, symbols, videos, gestures)
- [x] learns through physical interaction (e.g. hands-on tasks, movement)
- [x] follows better with modeled steps or live demos

how\_the\_student\_expresses\_understanding:

- [x] shows understanding through action, selection, or placement
- [x] gestures inconsistently — often reactive or mimicked
- [x] needs extended observation time before response

movement\_and\_physical\_support:

- [x] prefers standing or large-motor learning spaces
- [x] struggles with fine motor precision (e.g. pointing to one object from many)

abstract\_thinking\_and\_symbols:

- [x] does not generalize across cosmetic features (e.g. color or texture distracts)
- [x] confuses "same" with "familiar" and "different" with "new"
- [x] requires co-regulated validation to notice feature overlap

learning\_rhythm\_and\_energy:

- [x] works best in 3–6 minute cycles
- [x] resets when pattern is broken or re-presented differently

- [x] easily fatigued by error correction — needs success loops
- [x] co-regulation needed to stabilize engagement

response\_time:

- [x] very slow in open-ended comparisons
- [x] shows signs of uncertainty through withdrawal or task abandonment

emotional\_and\_social\_support:

- [x] relies heavily on adult's presence for pattern modeling
- [x] emotionally disengages when "wrong" feels arbitrary
- [x] highly sensitive to feedback tone — must not feel evaluated

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Language: English

Tone: Supportive, clear, classroom-aware.

Use appropriate Emojis for visual harmony while reading.

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