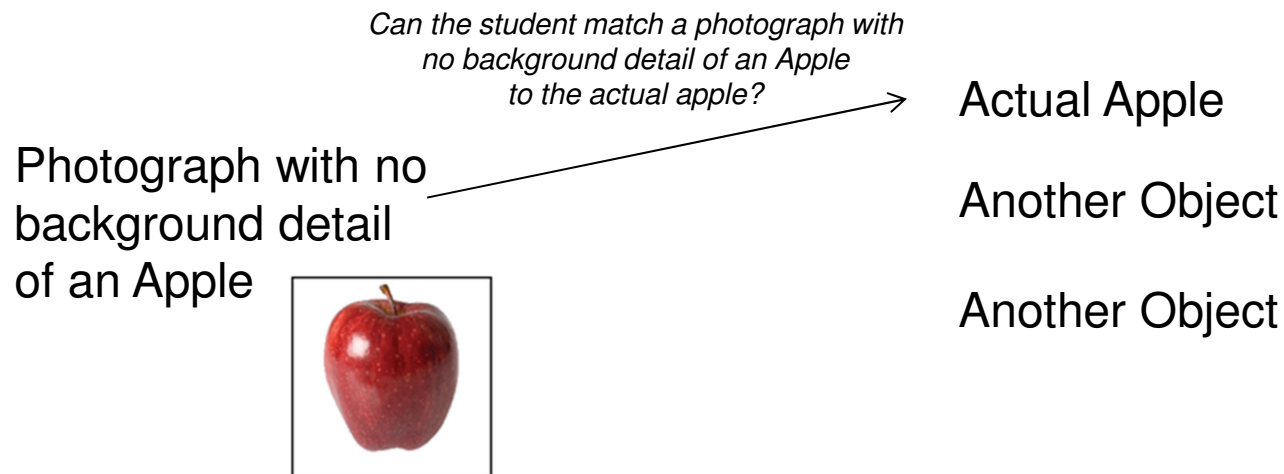


③ Photograph with No Background Detail to Object Matching

To assess what level of visual representation a child understands, we next ask a child to match non-identical stimuli on the basis of conceptual relationship (a general notion or idea) – for example, matching a photograph of an apple (with no background detail) to an actual apple. The introduction of a conceptual match to stimuli is a further extension of semantic boundaries (meaning), and is the foundation for using symbols as a communication system. The student is no longer reliant on common perceptual characteristics (i.e., color, shape) in order to recognize an item as part of a class, and is not constrained by having to refer only to items in the immediate environment.



Note: Monarch's Visual Representation Assessment, which was developed with Dr. Howard Shane from Boston's Children's Hospital, and is administered by Monarch Speech/Language Pathologists, is significantly more structured and involved than the scenario above. This is merely presented for illustrative purposes, to give you a high-level understanding.