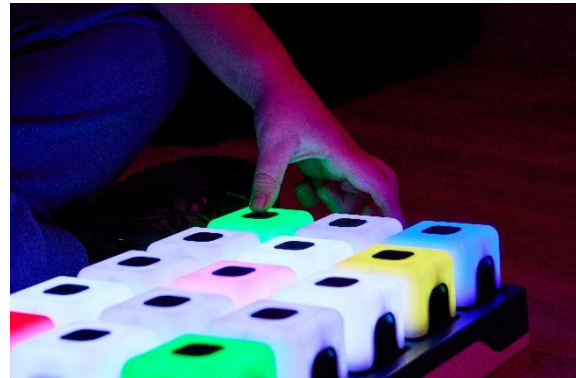




Glow Sequencing Cubes (EL47499)

This review, shared by Charlotte, mum to a young boy with Down Syndrome and ADHD, explores how the Glow Sequencing Cubes can be used to support regulation, communication and confidence. She highlights their value as a calming, portable resource that can be used at home, in a setting, or on the go, helping to reduce anxiety in unfamiliar or overwhelming situations.



Sensory Sequencing Cubes: Potential uses and benefits for children with complex needs

From my perspective, this resource could offer a wide range of benefits for children with complex developmental and sensory profiles. That includes children with Down syndrome, ADHD, ASD, ARFID, hearing loss, Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD), children who are sensory seeking, or those who have medical complexities.

A sense of calm and comfort – Supporting sensory needs

The first thing I like is that my son could still get the benefits of regulation and stimulation from many cubes or from just the one. The modular, interactive design, along with the way the lights respond to touch, could really help children regulate on busy, noisy, or demanding days. The gradual colour changes and tactile feedback could support sensory integration and modulation by giving a predictable and controlled sensory input. This may help children decompress and feel safe, especially when they feel like they are losing control. It could also support co-regulation.

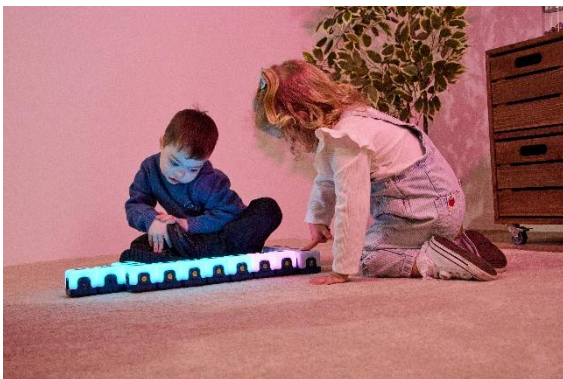


A portable source of reassurance

In hospitals or clinics, the Sensory Sequencing Cubes could be a portable comfort. Because they are small and sturdy, they would fit easily into an emergency bag or hospital kit and could be used as a familiar object for a child when everything else is unfamiliar. For us, my first thoughts are blood tests, heart scans, and A&E visits. Having a safe comfort that helps regulate a child with complex trauma and sensory needs would help during difficult moments to stay still and safe. It would also reassure me as a parent that he feels some sense of security in those moments too. It would help during times when I need to have conversations with doctors, like paediatricians, but can't because my son needs me more. It could help lower anxiety during medical procedures or long waits, offering something engaging to touch and look at. In hospitals, having something like this for post-surgery and recovery times would be so helpful for keeping a child both safe and engaged, and the excitement can increase as the child feels better by adding more blocks. This kind of distraction can make long and tough times a bit easier and help children feel more emotionally resilient and even act as an escape for them. It could also allow them to practice cognitive skills during these times too.

Using the Glow Sequencing Cubes in schools/settings to develop skills and different areas of learning

In schools, the Glow Sequencing Cubes could help sensory seekers stay engaged in classroom activities for longer. They could even be used as part of an adapted lesson for SEND children. The cubes might encourage parallel and joint play, spark conversations, and give children more chances to take turns and share with peers or even used to encourage role play. For us, this would be invaluable because my son has a language delay, uses signs to communicate, and has sensorineural hearing loss, so interacting with others can be really challenging for him and often leads to him isolating himself. The cubes would support some of his EHCP targets by encouraging that peer interaction on his terms, and within his safety zone. As the cubes are interesting to many different children, they could help build connections between neurodivergent and neurotypical classmates, making the classroom feel more inclusive and supportive for everyone. My son can also struggle when he feels something hasn't been completed, so having an object with a cyclical or rotating colour cycle could really help him in moments when he can't complete another circuit, such as when play time ends, or a song doesn't quite finish. It could also reduce cognitive load in overstimulating places like shops or parks.



Since the cubes can be stacked, moved, and explored in creative ways, they could support cognitive development and both fine and gross motor skills. They could also encourage imaginative play and self-exploration of cause-and-effect, especially with the different ways the blocks can be connected. They could be used in sensory bins, library rooms, and sensory rooms. I know my son would love them in his school's sensory room. They could be used by his 1:1 to promote language production and comprehension.

Helping with transitions and routines

Children who struggle with transitions, like moving between activities, toilet training, or mealtimes, could use the cubes as a gentle sensory anchor. Again, for us, transitioning between tasks can be very challenging at home and at school, so having the stability of the cube could make transitions easier, especially as it would be safe and easy to have in the car. It can also be incorporated into a visual timetable at school, so it becomes something to look forward to, that isn't disruptive to other children in the way that noisy resources are.

Regulation and calming

Children with hearing loss or auditory processing differences could also benefit from the cubes' changing lights. The visual cues may help them orient themselves within a space and feel safer. Also, the gradual changing colour at bedtime could provide both calming regulation and enough stimulation to satisfy the need for movement. The cubes could become a comforting object, a night light, and a stable presence that helps children regulate before bed, and again, they are something that can be built into the bedtime routine. For my son, who also has ADHD, typical bedtime routines do not help him sleep, as he actually needs stimulation to settle. The gradual colour changes would allow him to stay still while remaining regulated enough to fall to sleep.

Supporting focus through hands-on engagement

When children need something to fidget with, the tactile feel and connections could help them with focus and independent decision-making. They could also be used for visual tracking, which may help encourage visual attention and support oculomotor control. This could improve visual scanning and potentially support aspects of executive functioning.

Because of its travel size, it could also be useful on holidays, especially if a child feels anxious in an unfamiliar setting. It could help provide predictability and a sense of safety without taking up much space. Even for adults, I believe having a sensory cube nearby or in offices might offer a subtle way to self-regulate and stay grounded, while also allowing tactile stimming.

Many thanks to Charlotte for sharing her thoughts with us on the Glow Sequencing Cubes.