

CONSULTANTS'



SD School for the Blind
and Visually Impaired

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New Western Outreach Vision Consultant

By Dr. Marjorie Kaiser

In September, Susan Egging will be joining our team as an Outreach Vision Consultant for western South Dakota. Susan has previously lived in the states of Wyoming, Nebraska and New York. In Wyoming, she worked for the Department of Education as a consultant for the blind and visually impaired. During her tenure, she was appointed to serve as the Wyoming Ex-Officio Trustee for the American Printing House for the Blind. She also served as a liaison for both the National Library for the Blind and the Utah State Library for the Blind.



Susan has a Master's in Education from Nebraska's Chadron State College. She also has an Educational Leadership Endorsement from the University of Wyoming and a Bachelor of Science degree in both Elementary Education and Special Education. Her primary educational focus has been in the area of reading. With her considerable experience as a teacher, administrator and consultant, we believe she will be an incredible asset to the children, families, and schools in the western region of our state. As we extend this welcome to Susan, we also want to express how eager we are to renew our services to western South Dakota. It is going to be a great year!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

National White Cane Day: October 15, 2011

American Printing House, Louisville, KY
Insights Artwork Contest: February 1 - April 1, 2012

AER Dakotas Chapter Conference
Aberdeen SD: April 11-13, 2012

SDSBVI Summer School
Aberdeen SD: June 10-June 29, 2012
July 8-July 27, 2012

SDSBVI Family Weekend
Aberdeen: July 7-8, 2012

EVERYDAY CALENDAR ACTIVITIES

Children who are visually impaired need to have more hands-on experiences to help them learn. Below are some suggested activities that are simple, cheap, and don't take much time. Activities are taken from everyday events in our lives that are easy to access.

October

Go for a walk around the outside of the house. Look in the windows.
 Visit a recycling center. Bring some cans or newspapers to recycle.
 Play with animal crackers. Pair them up. Soak them, dunk them, and eat them.
 Find three rocks. Line them up by size. Compare the first to the second and third.
 Pretend your teddy bear is sick or hurt. What can you do to help?



November

Get a free sample of soap, make-up, or perfume and try it. Why is it free?
 Look at the keys on a typewriter. See how the letters get on the paper.
 Take down Halloween decorations and pack them away in a labeled box. Get Indian corn to hang.
 Look at a cast on someone's leg or arm. Why is it there? Can you touch it?
 Check the contents of a jewelry box. Compare old and new, cheap and expensive.

December

Start a holiday countdown calendar.
 Hang up some shirts. Practice buttoning the top button so the shirt will stay on the hanger.
 Discover hiding places in your home.
 Begin a list of sights, sounds, and scents of the season.
 Mail out holiday cards.

January 2012!

Celebrate New Year's Day! Blow party horns. Talk about the calendar.
 Dry some clothes in the dryer. Reach in the middle—it's warm! Why?
 Store holiday decorations in boxes. Put them away.
 Try on some summer clothes. Talk about seasons and temperature. How do they feel?
 Make orange juice from concentrate. Use the blender and help push the buttons. How does it work?



For more ideas or to borrow the complete set of Everyday Activities Calendar, contact your Outreach Vision Consultant. Everyday Activities Calendar is available from APH (American Printing House).

Books Featuring Characters with Visual Impairments

No End in Sight by Rachel Scdoris and Rick Steber

Rachael Scdoris was born legally blind, but that didn't stop her from becoming an athlete. When she discovered a love of mushing she threw herself into training and competing. With the help of a visual interpreter she took part in the Iditarod Sled Dog Race across Alaska, one of the top mushing races in the world. Grade 8 and up

To Race the Wind by Harold Krents

The autobiography of the young blind man who was the inspiration for the Broadway play "Butterflies Are Free". Grade 10 and up

Touch the Top of the World by Erik Weihenmayer

Erik Weihenmayer, born with retinoscheses, recalls his struggle to push past the limits placed on him by his visual impairment—and by a seeing world – to reach four of the "Seven Summits", the highest peak on each of the seven continents. Grade 9 and up

Aberdeen Area Family Support Group

Families in Aberdeen and surrounding areas met in April and had the opportunity to share the best ideas/advice/toys or experiences they have had with their child. One idea is the SweetPea 3. The SweetPea3 MP3 Player for Kids is most appropriate for kids ages 0-6 years or for anyone who desires simplicity and robustness, such as many seniors and those with special needs. MP3 technology uses memory chips to store music which means it is safe and robust because there are no moving parts. MP3 technology is also very simple to use and configure. It plays all the popular music and audio book formats. The 2GB memory stores up to 32 hours of music and stories. You can download your own music copied from a CD or purchased from stores like iTunes or Amazon.com. The player comes preloaded with music by Susie Tallman and stories by Jim Weiss. Some additional ideas shared by parents was Dycem/exercise bands used



for a non-slip surface, small toolbelts to help carry items, scented or flavored Play dough, and a Gyro bowl for non-spillage. Amy Scepaniak shared interesting ideas for making homemade toys out of house-hold items.

In August, the group met at the Aberdeen Aquatics Center for an evening of swimming, pizza, and visiting with others [Mother Nature shortened the fun with rain and lightning!].



“Growing a Vision” Family Weekend – July 9 &10, 2011

It had been several years since the School had hosted a family weekend. With financial help from the SD Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Outreach Vision Consultants along with help from several other staff members put on a Family Weekend. The weekend was filled with informational seminars for parents and fun, games, and activities for the children. Seven families attended and took part in the festivities.



Speakers included the following:

- Blossoming into the New Age of Technology – Mark Cook from DakotaLink
- Planting Seeds: Expanded Core Curriculum - Marje Kaiser
- Growing and Going: Orientation and Mobility - Ardell Fiedler and Jane Mundschenk
- Growing up with a Visual Impairment: Panel - Dawn Brush, Ardell Fiedler, and Virginia Miller
- Growing Independence: Independent Living Skills - Ken Dockter
- Fertilizing Your Knowledge: Website Resources - Marje Kaiser

Mark your calendars as the outreach staff are already planning for next year’s Family Weekend on July 7-8, 2012. This is the weekend that precedes our second session of summer school.

Annual Eye Doctor Appointments

Have you had your child in for his/her annual eye appointment? The beginning of the school year is a great time of year to have your child’s vision re-evaluated. If your child has had a recent eye appointment, please inform your outreach vision consultant about any updates in eyewear and changes in vision. Sending the latest eye report to your Outreach Vision Consultant will also be helpful in updating the file information.

APH Educational Materials - School Supplies

We hope you have all had a great start to the new school year! Do you have all of your child's school shopping done? Are there some items your child struggles with using due to the loss of vision? We just want to remind you that we have supplies from The American Printing House (APH) that may be very helpful for your child. For additional information on any APH product, contact your Outreach Vision Consultant or look on the APH website at: <http://www.aph.org>.

Some items include:

- Bold Lined Notebooks and Notebook Paper
- Large Print and Braille Rulers
- Large Print and Braille Protractors
- Various Math and Geometry Manipulatives
- Large Print and Braille Number Lines

The Pilot Frixion erasable pens (not an APH item) is a favorite among many of the children. It is available at department stores in black, blue, or red; as well as other fun colors.



White Cane Day Songs

October 15 is National White Cane Day. To celebrate that special day, The Montana School for the Deaf and Blind participated in some fun activities. They made white cane snacks (pretzel rods dipped in white chocolate) and played Orientation & Mobility jeopardy, along with other mobility games. The music department also got involved. The class enjoyed coming up with some White Cane Day songs. Listed below are the lyrics.

“Use a Cane” (sung to the tune of “Lean on Me”)

Some kids that we know
 They cannot see
 They cannot find their way
 But, if they are smart
 They know that there's
 Always a White Cane Day.
 Use a Cane!
 If you are blind.
 It'll be your friend.
 It'll help you travel on.
 For, it will not mind
 If you need some help.
 Something to guide you along.
 So just use a white cane
 If you need a hand.
 We all need something to guide us along.
 You just might have an obstacle, for which you had not planned.
 We all need something to guide us along.
 WHITE CANE!



“Don't Stop Swinging”

(sung to the tune of “Don't Stop Believin”)
 Just a small town kid, livin' in a busy world.
 I took the Great Falls (substitute your town) bus
 going here and there.
 Just a V.I. kid, born and raised in Montana
 (substitute your state).
 I took the Great Falls (substitute your town) bus
 going here and there.
 Don't stop swinging.
 Hold on to your white cane.
 Bus-pass people...oh, oh, oh...
 DON'T STOP



Labeling in the Home

Does your child have a difficult time finding specific items in your home? Many objects in the home are similar in shape and size. Just think of how many bags, cans, and boxes you have in your kitchen cupboards! Fortunately, there are many ways to label those items to make your time in the kitchen more productive and more time efficient. Large print and Braille labels are one way to label these items. And, attaching these labels to elastic bands allows them to be reused as well as be the shopping list when the item is gone.

There are other creative ways of labeling items if large print or Braille are not effective. Dots or lines of glue put on the tops of containers work to distinguish different containers of similar foods, such as a line for white milk and a dot for chocolate milk. Staples can be stapled onto containers as a means of labeling: one staple could be a pouch of plain microwave oatmeal and two staples could be apples and cinnamon. You can also attach textured objects as labels, such as gluing an actual piece of Froot Loops cereal to a reusable cereal container or the dried noodle to the box in order to know the shape of the noodles in various boxes. Hot glue tends to work best since it dries fairly quickly.

Using various shapes or sizes of containers will distinguish a variety of similar foods, such as using a square container for saltine crackers and a round container for Ritz crackers. And don't forget that using your other senses can even eliminate the need for labeling. A bag of plain M & M's candy feels different than a bag of peanut M & M's. Or Cocoa Puffs smell different than Rice Krispies. And shaking a box will tell you if the box contains rice or pancake mix.

Hopefully these ideas will get you thinking about other ways to label items in the kitchen. So get creative and help your child increase his/her independence in the kitchen! Also, see the article included in this issue describing the new PenFriend, a voice labeling system. Look for labeling in other rooms in the home in upcoming issues of the Consultants' Corners.

Cool Uses for Clothespins

Wooden clothes pins are cheap and last a long time. And some of the following ideas are more economical to use instead of buying the normal gadgets and gizmos you might otherwise use.

Hanging Clothes...Clothespins were made for hanging, so why not take advantage of that and use them to hang skirts and pants, in your closet, on cheap (or free) wire hangers? They allow you to stay away from those expensive and hard-to-use special skirt hangers.

Chip clips... Clothespins work just as well as those ugly plastic clips, and they take up less space, too. You can actually write on them, if you wanted to indicate the date that the chips were opened.

Custom notepad or grocery list holder... Just glue a small magnet to one side of a clothespin. (Cut up one of those free rectangular magnets that you get from pizza places, dentist offices and other places that use them to advertise their business). Then just clip your notepad or list on the clip and stick it on the refrigerator.

Pair keeper...In the cold months, gloves and mittens that are scatted on the shelves and floor can lose their mates. Clothespins to the rescue! Just keep a couple of clothespins pinned in your closet. Then as soon as everyone comes in from the cold, pin the mittens and gloves together in pairs. This works great on shoes, sneakers and boots, too.

Garbage bag holder...Filling leaf bags can be hard work because they tend to flop over. Use a couple of clothespins to clip one side to a tree branch (fence or other spot) to hold the bag open.

Fine motor strengthener...Practice pinching and releasing clothespins on a coffee can or other container. Helps develop finger strength for other fine motor activities. (Source: Fred's Head from APH 7/30/11)



LEARNING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX

More Than a Jack-O'Lantern

Incidental learning is learning that takes place without any intent to learn. The participant is not aware that he or she is learning. It has no curriculum and is not professionally organized, but rather originates accidentally or sporadically in association with specific occasions (http://psychology.wikia.com/wiki/Incidental_learning). This method of learning is very difficult for children who are blind or visually impaired. Therefore, these children need to be taught about their environment through hands-on learning experiences. For example, does your child know that pumpkins grow on vines? Or that they can be over 1,000 pounds? Have they ever scooped out the inside of a pumpkin and roasted and eaten the seeds? Following are some activities to help you teach your child that a pumpkin is more than a Jack O' Lantern.

How Much Do You Know About Pumpkins Quiz? (True or False)

1. Pumpkin is a gourd-like squash.
2. The word pumpkin originates from the Greek word "pepon".
3. Pumpkins can grow over 1,000 pounds.
4. Pumpkin is a vegetable.
5. Pumpkins do not produce in Antarctica.
6. The biggest producers of pumpkins are the US, Mexico, Indian, and China.
7. One of the top producing pumpkin states in the US is Illinois.
8. The nutrients in a pumpkin generate vitamin A in the body.
9. Pumpkins are a cold-weather crop and are usually planted in December.



(answers on page 12)

Activities with Pumpkins

- ☺ Cut the pumpkin top, similar to a watermelon basket, making two handles opposite each other. Tie rope to the handles and fill with bird seed. Hang the feeder in the tree for the birds to feast.
- ☺ Go to a pumpkin patch to pick pumpkins; discuss the different sizes of pumpkins.
- ☺ Cut the pumpkin and scoop the insides out. Roast the seeds.
- ☺ Cut the stem of a small pumpkin from the top down. Stick place cards in the slot for a decorative place holder.
- ☺ After scooping out the pumpkin fill it with cut flowers to make a table centerpiece.
- ☺ See how many ways you can make faces on a pumpkin (i.e. cutting, painting, Mr. Potato Head style).
- ☺ Cut the stem out of the pumpkin, make the hole large enough and deep enough to hold the bottom fourth of a votive candle for a candle holder.

Pumpkin Rhyme

Five little pumpkins
Sitting on a gate.
The first one said,
"Oh, my it's getting late!"
The second one said,
"There are witches in the air!"
The third one said,
"Well, I care!"
The fourth one said,
"Let's run and run and run!"
The fifth one said,
"I'm ready for some fun!"
Ooooo went the wind
And out went the lights
And the five little pumpkins
Rolled out of sight.

Pumpkin Poem

The jack-o'lantern chuckled
Then winked his funny eye,
"I would rather be a pumpkin-face
Than be inside a pie!"
Jolly wolly pumpkin face
You're happy tell us why.
I'd rather be a pumpkin face
And not a pumpkin pie!

Books about Pumpkins

Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown – Charles Schulz
The Littlest Pumpkin (with a supplemental puzzle) – Suzette Wright
Too Many Pumpkins – Linda White
Duck and Goose Find a Pumpkin – Tad Hills

Websites with Pumpkin Activities

www.squidoo.com
www.youthonline.ca/halloween/101pumpkins.html
www.fantasypumpkins.com/free-patterns.htm

Pumpkin Recipes

ROASTED PUMPKIN SEEDS

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups raw whole pumpkin seeds
- 2 teaspoons butter, melted
- 1 pinch salt

Directions

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

Toss seeds in a bowl with the melted butter and salt. Spread the seeds in a single layer on a baking sheet and bake for about 45 minutes or until golden brown; stir occasionally. Serves 6



CHOCOLATE PUMPKIN CAKE

Ingredients

- 1 (18.25 ounce) package chocolate cake mix
- 1 (15 ounce) can pumpkin
- 2 eggs
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 (16 ounce) container cream cheese frosting

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9x13 inch baking dish.

In a large bowl, mix the cake mix, pumpkin, eggs and oil for 3 minutes using a mixer on medium speed. Pour into the prepared pan and spread evenly. Bake for 35 to 40 minutes in the preheated oven, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool, then frost with cream cheese frosting. Serves 18



(Source: allrecipes.com)

Video Views

“Sensory Perspectives”, distributed by HOPE, Inc. (www.hopepubl.com), is a wonderful DVD that offers simulated video clips of various visual disabilities, including:

- 👁️ 20/70 Acuity Loss
- 👁️ 20/200 Acuity Loss
- 👁️ 20/400 Acuity Loss
- 👁️ Hand Motion
- 👁️ Light Perception
- 👁️ Tunnel Vision 5 Degrees
- 👁️ Tunnel Vision 20 Degrees
- 👁️ Central Vision
- 👁️ Scattered Blind Spots or Scotomas
- 👁️ Hemianopsia
- 👁️ Cataracts
- 👁️ Retinitis/CMV (Cytomegalovirus)
- 👁️ Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI)



The video clips are short, so watching it is not very time consuming, but it is very informative. You know what they say: “A picture (video) is worth a 1,000 words”. The video also allows for adding a hearing loss to the vision loss or doing a hearing loss on its own.

Ask your Outreach Vision Consultant to do a mini in-service at your school utilizing this CD or it can be loaned to watch on your own. It is well worth the time!

Large Print Books

Now that school has started, students will be reading books for class assignments. Fatigue can be an issue for students reading books where the print is too small. Our librarian has access to many large print books so if you would like to ask about availability of large print books, feel free to contact Librarian Pat Geditz at 1-888-275-3814 or 605-626-2675 or by email at geditzp@sdsbvi.northern.edu. The Outreach Vision Consultants also have a collection of large print books.

The following is a list of titles available:

A Christmas Carol
 A Girl Called Al
 A Series of Unfortunate Events - The Bad Beginning
 Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping
 Anastasia Krupnik
 Anastasia on Her Own
 Anne of Green Gables
 Aria of the Sea
 Artemis Fowl the Opal Deception
 Avalon High
 Beat the Turtle Drum
 Bedknob and Broomstick
 Big Books - COLORS
 Big Books - NUMBERS
 Big Books - SHAPES
 Blubber
 Brian's Return
 Broomnapped
 Bud, Not Buddy
 Come Back Amelia Bedelia
 Danny the Duck
 Dicey's Song
 Dogsong
 Favorite Things - Board Book
 Fish Kisses and Gorilla Hugs
 Five Go Off To Camp
 Flipped
 Frog and Toad Are Friends
 Frog and Toad Together
 Gathering Blue
 Ghost Boy
 Goosebumps - Let's Get Invisible!
 Goosebumps - Monster Blood
 Goosebumps - Night of the Living Dummy
 Goosebumps - Say Cheese and Die!
 Goosebumps - Stay Out of the Basement
 Goosebumps - The Curse of the Mummy's Tomb

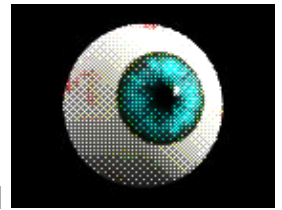
Goosebumps - The Ghost Next Door
 Goosebumps - The Girl Who Cried Monster
 Goosebumps - Welcome to Camp Nightmare
 Goosebumps - Welcome to Dead House
 Hands Are Not for Hitting
 Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows
 Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire
 Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
 Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
 Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
 Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
 Heaven
 Heroes
 Holes
 Honey, Baby, Sweetheart
 Iggy's House
 James and the Giant Peach
 Jasper the Cat
 Just Ella
 Kissing Doorknobs
 Knots in My Yo-Yo String
 Life in the Fat Lane
 Lily and the Lost Boy
 Little Lessons for Little Fingers
 Matilda Bone
 Maximum Ride the Angel Experiment
 Miss Spider's Family Album
 Monster
 My Busy Day - Board Book
 Not the End of the World
 On the Day You Were Born
 Ophelia Speaks
 Princess in Love
 Ralph the Rabbit
 Ramona the Brave
 Ready Readers - Stage 1
 Ready Readers - Stage 2
 Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry
 Rules of the Road
 Sam the Dog
 Shiloh
 Skellig
 Speak
 Star Wars - Mission from Mount Yoda
 Star Wars - Prophets of the Dark Side
 Star Wars - Queen of the Empire
 Star Wars - The Glove of Darth Vader
 Star Wars - The Lost City of the Jedi
 Star Wars - Zorba the Hutt's Revenge
 Stargirl
 Summer of My German Soldier
 Tadpole
 Teeth Are Not for Biting

Telling Time
 The Ashwater Experiment
 The Birchbark House
 The Chronicles of Narnia - Prince Caspian
 The Chronicles of Narnia - The Horse and His Boy
 The Chronicles of Narnia - The Last Battle
 The Chronicles of Narnia - The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
 The Chronicles of Narnia - The Magician's Nephew
 The Chronicles of Narnia - The Silver Chair
 The Chronicles of Narnia - The Voyage of the Dawn Treader
 The Contender
 The Convicts
 The Diary of a Young Girl - Anne Frank
 The Ear, The Eye, And The Arm
 The Folk Keeper
 The Grey King
 The Indian in the Cupboard
 The Killer's Cousin
 The Language of Goldfish
 The Legend of Luke
 The Moves Make the Man
 The Planet of Junior Brown
 The Return of the Indian
 The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants
 The Skin I'm In
 The Stowaways
 The Suitcase Kid
 The Tigers Apprentice
 The Transall Saga
 The View from Saturday
 The Wreckers
 Tiger Eyes
 Time for Play - Board Book
 Touch and Feel - Baby Animals, Carry-me
 Touch and Feel - Colors, Little Scholastic
 Touch and Feel - Farm Animals, Carry-me
 Touch and Feel - Numbers, Little Scholastic
 Touch and Feel - Wild Animals, Carry-me
 Touch and Feel: Pets, Carry-me
 Travel Team
 Tribute to Another Dead Rock Star
 Tuck Everlasting
 Whale Talk
 When Zachary Beaver Came To Town
 Winnie-the-Pooh
 World Atlas



FOCUS ON THE EYE

ANIRIDIA



DESCRIPTION

Aniridia is characterized by complete or partial absence of the iris, resulting in reduced visual acuity and nystagmus presenting in early infancy. Frequently, associated ocular abnormalities, which often occur later, include an underdeveloped retina, cataract, glaucoma, lens dislocation, optic nerve hypoplasia, and corneal opacification and vascularization. The impact of such secondary conditions can worsen one's sight.

Aniridia is rare. Its incidence is between 1/50,000 and 1/100,000. Vision may vary from 20/40 to 20/400. All aniridics will have challenges with seeing detail due to an underdeveloped retina. Most pediatric ophthalmologists will tell parents of an aniridic child "we will have to wait until he/she can tell us what he/she can see". This can be very scary and frustrating. However, an aniridic child's sight can develop and get better over time.

Nystagmus (involuntary eye movements) is present in varying degrees in people with Aniridia and typically decreases with age. Nystagmus may be from side-to-side, up and down, or rotary. It tends to increase when the person is upset, excited, or tired. Although people with nystagmus are not aware that their eyes are moving, it does make it more difficult for them to focus clearly on details. In fact, they often will find a "null point", which is the point where their nystagmus is the least. They will move their head to the position necessary to focus on this spot, consequently slowing their nystagmus and allowing for their best vision.

CAUSES

Aniridia is a genetic condition which can be passed on from one parent or can just happen sporadically. Unlike most genetic conditions, Aniridia is autosomal dominant, meaning it takes only one mutated gene to cause this condition. There is a fifty percent chance of an aniridic passing it on to one's offspring.

TREATMENT

Aniridia is treated with spectacle correction of refractive errors, tinted or photochromic lenses to reduce light sensitivity, occlusion therapy for amblyopia, and low-vision aids such as closed-circuit television. Cataract extraction may improve visual acuity. Glaucoma is initially treated with topical anti-glaucoma medication and may require surgery (trabeculectomy or drainage tube surgery). Annual glaucoma screening done throughout life should include measurement of intraocular pressure, optic disc examination, and, when possible, a visual field assessment should be done. An eye examination in infancy is recommended for offspring and siblings of individuals with Aniridia.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- Large print books / materials
- CCTV and magnification
- High contrast materials
- Due to sensitivity to light, wearing sunglasses is important for both comfort and to protect the retina.
- Braille is typically not necessary for people with Aniridia; a few may learn to use it in order to give their eyes a rest.
- Regular visits to the eye care specialist need to be scheduled.

SOURCES

www.aapos.org

www.aniridia.net

www.aniridia.org

www.rnib.org.uk

www.tsbvi.edu

www.visionfortomorrow.org

RNIB PenFriend-Voice Labeling System

The PenFriend is a new voice labeling system by RNIB that allows users to easily record, and re-record, information onto self-adhesive labels. This small pen shaped recorder provides easy recognition sound and just four buttons in a simple identifiable pattern. Instantly play back the recordings - no computer required. Use the PenFriend to label food items, including freezer food and even add cooking instructions, film and music collections, organize household paperwork, record shopping lists or leave audio messages. Clothing that is dry cleaned can even be labeled. The PenFriend can also be used as a portable notetaker. You can record your message and keep track of it by placing the allocated label in a small notebook or in your diary. This device is great for students as well as home use!



Features:

- ☞ simply allocate one of the coded self-adhesive labels and record and store your message on the PenFriend; to play back touch the PenFriend tip to the label and it will announce recordings specific to each label
- ☞ there is no limit to the record length associated with each label
- ☞ over 70 hours of recording time available on 1 GB internal memory
- ☞ ability to download MP3 files including books and music - computer required for this function.
- ☞ includes 127 labels in a mix of sizes and shapes, currently 2 sheets of square shaped labels and 1 sheet of small circles, built-in speaker, USB cable, neck lanyard and two AAA batteries
- ☞ extra labels are available in packs of 380
- ☞ labels cannot go into the washing machine

Available for \$139.95 at: Independent Living Aids, LLC, www.independentliving.com

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APH InSights!

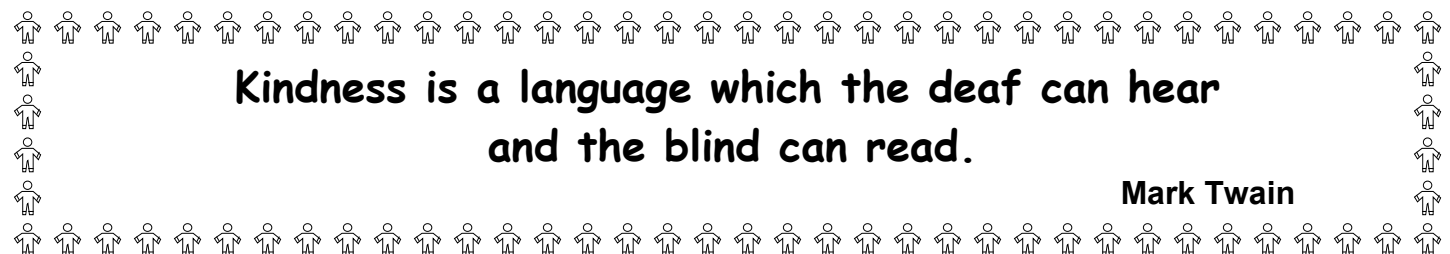
During the 2010-2011 school year, four South Dakota students submitted artwork to the American Printing House for the Blind's (APH) annual InSights Art competition and exhibition. This competition is open to all blind and visually impaired individuals around the globe. We are pleased to announce that the piece submitted by Dominick Woodraska, Stewart School in Yankton SD, has been chosen for exhibition at this year's APH annual meeting in October. Way to go Dominick!!!

As this year progresses, please look closely at pieces of art created by your child/students and consider submitting them for this year's competition. If you have any questions, contact your Outreach Vision Consultant or go to <http://www.aph.org/museum/insights.html> for more information. Entry forms for the competition are available in February of each year.

AA

Reminder!!!!

If you recently received an **Information Form** from our Outreach Department and haven't had a chance to fill it out, we would really appreciate if you could take a minute to make any changes on the form and return to the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired at 423 17th Ave SE, Aberdeen SD 57401. The information helps us to keep our records up to date.



**Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear
and the blind can read.**

Mark Twain

National Braille Press

National Braille Press (NBP) supports a lifetime of opportunity for blind children through braille literacy, and provides access to information that empowers blind people to actively engage in work, family, and community affairs. National Braille Press is a Boston-based nonprofit braille printing and publishing house founded in 1927 to ensure that blind people have the same access to information as sighted people in a medium they can read-braille. Over 93 children's books are available at the same cost of a print book. Books such as Periodicals, Computers & Technology, Home & Health, Literature & Poetry, and Self Help are also available along with gift items. Featured items from NBP include the following items.



Getting Started with the iPhone: An Introduction for Blind Users (IPHONE)

The iPhone. You know you want one...

You can use your iPhone to check email and Twitter, listen to music, listen to radio programs from faraway places, read eBooks, verify your walking or driving location, pay bills and transfer funds, monitor the weather across the planet, use as a timer, awaken to the alarm clock, be reminded of appointments, exchange text messages, play a wide variety of games, play the auto harp and ocarina, fight with a light saber that makes different sounds as you move your hand around, scan bar codes, make and mix multi-track recordings, cure a headache - and even to make and receive telephone calls! You'll be blown away by the power and flexibility of this device. To be able to do so much with a gadget that fits into a pocket is absolutely amazing. And it's accessible out of the box!

In Getting Started with the iPhone, authors Anna Dresner and Dean Martineau show you what's possible on the iPhone and get you up and running. While this book focuses on the iPhone, most of it also applies to the iPod Touch, and much of it applies to the iPad. It is available in Braille (3 volumes), eBraille, ASCII text/Word, and DAISY formats for \$18.26. Also available is the Most Useful iPhone Apps for Blind Users, written by Peter Cantisani. Did you know you can use an iPhone to take your blood pressure, dictate emails and Tweets, listen to turn-by-turn walking or driving directions, record the budding musician in you, and so much more? Cost is \$9.

Read2Go is Ready to Go!

Bookshare is happy to announce that Read2Go, the accessible e-reader app for the Apple iOS, is now available for purchase for \$19.99 on the Apple App Store! Now your child can enjoy all their favorite Bookshare books on cool Apple devices like the iPad, iPhone, and iPod touch (4th generation versions). Read2Go allows readers to easily find, download and read Bookshare books all in one place with great features:

- 👂 listen to books with high quality text-to-speech voices
- 👂 see and hear words read as they are highlighted
- 👂 adjust reading speed, font size, and colors for highlights and background contrast
- 👂 connect and read with Braille displays via bluetooth and more!

For more information about Bookshare visit www.bookshare.org.

Free Braille Books from Seedlings

Seedlings' "Book Angel Program" is open to visually impaired children who live in the U.S. and Canada. Through this program each child can receive two free Seedlings' books each year. Simply list four books from their catalog and you will receive two of them. Print/Braille/Picture books are a good way to introduce Braille to toddlers; Print/Braille Easy-Readers are good for beginning readers; and Braille Only books are perfect for older, more independent readers. To register, fill out the online form found at www.seedlings.org/special.php or for more information, contact Debra Bonde, Director, Seedlings Braille Books for Children by calling 800-777-8552.



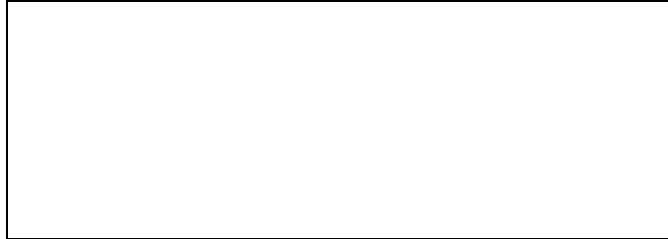


SD School for the Blind
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How Much Do You Know About Pumpkins Quiz? True (T) and False (F) Answers: 1.T, 2.T, 3.T, 4.F, 5.T, 6.T, 7.T, 8.T, 9.F

PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH STAFF, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS

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