

CONSULTANTS'

WINTER 2014

Volume 16 Issue 2

Editorial Staff: Indira Dillon,
Susan Egging, Dawn LaMee, Amy
Scepaniak, and Julie VanDover

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 1

☞ Tactile Book

Page 2

☞ Everyday Calendar Activities

☞ Textbook Orders

Page 3

☞ Smarter Balanced Assessments

☞ Transition Trails

☞ APH Products: Teaching the
Common Core

☞ SAM: Symbols & Meaning Training

Page 4

☞ APH Educational Materials

☞ Books Featuring Characters with
Visual Impairments

☞ Video Views

Page 5

☞ iPad Tips

☞ "AER is OZ-SOME"

Pages 6

☞ Incidental Learning or "Learning Outside
of the Box"

☞ BARD Mobile

Page 7

☞ Baking Bread with Children

☞ Did You Know?

Page 8

☞ Story Box

☞ Organizing a Kitchen

Page 9

☞ Normal Visual Development

Page 10

☞ Normal Visual Development
(continued from page 9)

Page 11

☞ Summer Fun & Learning

☞ Consultants' Contact Information

Page 12

☞ Christmas Family Fun

☞ Family Weekend: Walk a Mile in My Shoes



SD School for the Blind
and Visually Impaired

Tactile Book

Lori Gellhaus, Outreach Secretary has made many tactile materials for the Outreach Program and this year for the first time she created a tactile book that was entered into a U.S. competition through the American Printing House for the Blind. Lori's book Look, Look Ladybugs was selected as one of the top five entries from the United States to advance to the International competition sponsored by Typhlo & Tactus (T&T), which is an organization dedicated to improving the quality and quantity of books with tactile illustrations available to young children with visual impairments in member countries. The competition took place in Helsinki, Finland. We are extremely **PROUD** of her as this is a remarkable accomplishment, especially for her first book creation!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

National Braille Literacy Month

January 2014

State Special Education Conference

March 25-26, 2014 @ Pierre, SD

Symbols and Meaning Training

April 9, 2014 @ Rapid City, SD

AER Conference

May 7-9, 2014 @ Aberdeen, SD

SDSBVI Family Weekend

June 7-8, 2014 @ SDSBVI Aberdeen, SD

Dare to Dream

June 8-10, 2014 @ Aberdeen, SD

Transition Week for Students with Visual Impairments

June 16-20, 2014 @ SDRC Sioux Falls, SD

SDSBVI Summer Program (<http://sdsbvi.northern.edu>)

Aberdeen, SD: June 8-June 27, 2014

July 6-July 25, 2014

SDSBVI Annual Family Swim Party

July 25, 2014 @ Aquatics Center Aberdeen, SD

Smarter Balanced Assessments

As spring approaches, now is the time to take a look at the Smarter Balanced practice tests on-line. The practice test can be taken on any Internet-connected computer using a current Web browser including:



Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Apple Safari. To experience the text-to-speech functionality, the secure browser application is required. To administer a Braille test, access the Technical Assistance Practice Site. To get started with the practice test go to <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/>. Then click on "Smarter Balanced Assessments" in the top banner, then click on "Practice and Pilot Tests" which takes you to <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/pilot-test>. Scroll down through the page to "Explore the Smarter Balanced Practice Tests". Then under the subtitle of Resources & Support click on "Practice Test Portal", then click on the bicycle picture titled "Student Interface Practice Test" (this is also the page where you access the secure browser or TA Practice Site). You are now ready to do a practice test! Once there, try the large print ability and have the student practice navigating the screen. If the student needs larger print than what is available, contact your local test coordinator. If you have any further questions, contact Jan Martin at jan.martin@state.sd.us or 605-773-3246.

Transition Trails

By Karen Gerety, SDSBVI Transition Specialist

The annual Transition Week will be held at the South Dakota Rehab Center for the Blind on June 16-20, 2014. I had the good fortune of being part of it for the first time last summer, and I was extremely impressed! This fun-filled week brings together students with visual impairments from across the state to learn leadership and advocacy skills, practice independent living skills, and improve work skills. The students participate in social activities, have a chance to make new friends, and experience "world of work" activities. The week is open to any transition-age student (ages 16-21) who is a Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired client. All you have to do is contact your SBVI counselor and ask for a referral for Transition Week. If your student is not an SBVI client, don't worry, they might still be eligible for the week. Contact Karen Gerety, Transition Specialist, for more details: toll-free 1-888-275-3814 or karen.gerety@sdsbvi.northern.edu.

APH Products: Teaching the Common Core

The Common Core State Standards were developed as an educational initiative to align diverse state programs to provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn. On the American Printing House (APH) website (<http://www.aph.org/ccss/>), you will find links to resources providing information and guidance for implementing these Standards. You will also find a listing of APH products that can be used to teach and reinforce the concepts in the area of mathematics for Grades K-8. Mathematics product for grades 9-12 will be posted as they become available. APH product recommendations for the English Language Arts Common Core Standards will be published in the future.

SAM: Symbols & Meaning Training

On April 9, 2014, SDSBVI will be sponsoring a training in Rapid City for educators needing strategies for developing a student's sensory foundation. Millie Smith, creator of "SAM: Symbols and Meaning", will advance our understanding of how to create accessible and meaningful learning activities for children with visual and multiple impairments and preschool children with visual impairments who are just beginning to use symbols.

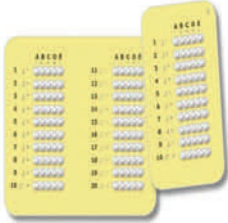
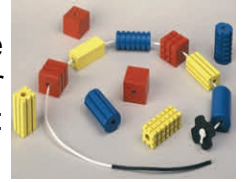


For more information or to register contact Susan Egging, Outreach Consultant at 605-269-1405 or susan.egging@sdsbvi.northern.edu.

APH Educational Materials

Giant Textured Beads

The beads introduce concepts of shape, color, and texture and develops muscle and eye-hand coordination. Set includes 12 brightly colored plastic beads in four shapes: cube, rectangular solid, and cylinder. Shapes have three textures: smooth, striped, and a grid. A bead stringer and instructions in print are included.

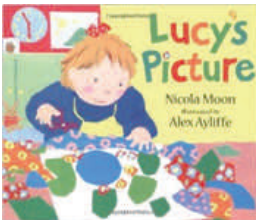


Accessible Multiple Choice Answer Sheets: Pop-A-Dot (4-pack)

These tactile, high-contrast sheets provide a new way to make test-taking more fun! "Memory plastic" dots are pushed down to select an answer, but can be popped back up easily, allowing students to change their answers independently. Multiple choice answers run horizontally. Advanced level student sheets have questions 1–20 in two columns. Beginning level sheets have questions 1–10.

These products are available from the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) for purchase and can also be borrowed from your area Outreach Vision Consultant. For more information on these products or other APH products, please contact your Outreach Vision Consultant.

Books Featuring Characters with Visual Impairments

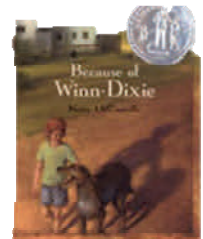


Lucy's Picture by Nicola Moon

Lucy wants to make a picture for her grandpa, but she does not want to use the brightly colored paints like the rest of the children. Her grandpa is blind, so Lucy makes him a picture he can feel with his fingers. Her imagination and love is heart-warming and perfect for sharing with younger children. Ages 3-7

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

With her newly adopted, goofy pooch at her side, 10-year-old Opal meets the local librarian who once fought off a bear with a book, an ex-con who sets all the pets loose, and a nearly blind woman who sees with her heart. It is Opal's down-home charm and Winn-Dixie's "smile" and sweet temperament that help them to celebrate friendship, forgiveness, tolerance, and new beginnings. Ages 8 and up



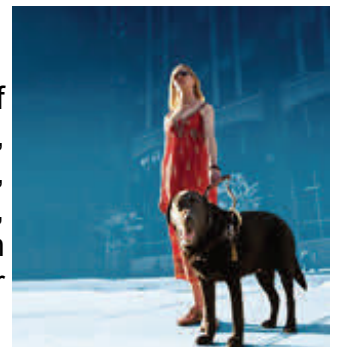
Tangerine by Edward Bloor

Paul Fisher sees the world from behind thick glasses but he is not so blind that he cannot see some unusual things about his family's new home in Tangerine. Where else does a sinkhole swallow the local school and lightning strike at the same time very day! Paul finally joins a soccer team and with the help of his teammates, he discovers what lies beneath the surface of his strange new town. In Tangerine, it seems, *anything* is possible. Grade Level 5-9 Ages 10-14

Video Views

Going Blind, Lovett Productions, 2010, 81 minutes

While millions of people face their days with little or no vision, the world of visually impaired people remains a mystery to most of us. In Going Blind, Joseph Lovett, an award-winning filmmaker with sight robbing glaucoma, takes us on a five year journey as he struggles to save his remaining sight, and learns about the myths, challenges, and opportunities facing those with vision loss. To get more information, go to www.GoingBlindMovie.com or contact your Outreach Vision Consultant.



iPad Tips



Siri is a voice activated personal assistant that helps you complete tasks on your iDevice. There is a choice of a male or female voice. Is Siri mangling your name? To correct Siri's pronunciation tell Siri "you didn't pronounce my name right" and Siri will ask you how to pronounce it correctly.

iOS7 has added and made some changes to the accessibility options. Some of the changes are:

- 🌀 **Larger Type** will increase even more than the "Text Size" within General Settings.
- 🌀 **Bold Text** will make text bold and more legible (one of my favorites).
- 🌀 **Increase Contrast** will improve contrast on some backgrounds to make text more readable.
- 🌀 **Invert Colors** will change the color contrast of the screen.
- 🌀 **Speak Selection** is a built-in text to speech application. Adjustable speech rates and voices are included. If enabled, it will highlight as it reads.
- 🌀 **Reduce Motion** will reduce the parallax effect on the iDevice screen.
- 🌀 **All your apps on one screen.** Now that folders can hold an unlimited number of apps, you don't need to have multiple screens on your iPad just for apps. You can dedicate your screen for folders and organize all of your apps in those folders.
- 🌀 **Go Burst Mode** with your camera. You can now take a burst of photos by holding down one of the volume buttons while in the Camera app.
- 🌀 **Tired of flipping back and forth from letters to numbers?** Rather than tapping the ".?123" key to get at the numbers, hold your finger down on it and then slide your finger to the key you need. When you release your finger, the iPad will produce your character and automatically flip back to the original keyboard layout. You can also do the tap and hold trick on the shift key to quickly get a capital letter.

^^^

"AER is OZ-SOME"

The Association for Education & Rehabilitation of the Blind & Visually Impaired (AER) Dakotas Chapter Conference will be held May 7-9, 2014 at Ramada Inn, Aberdeen, SD



Featured Presenters and Topics Include:

- 🌀 Ike Presley (AFB): E-Books, Audio Books, What to Teach When
- 🌀 Kerry Isham (APH): Early Childhood, ToAD, APH Products
- 🌀 Diane Brauner: Teaching Auditory Object Perception, Putting Orientation Back in O&M, Making Tactile Maps, High Tech O&M

Lodging Information: Ramada Inn, 2727 6th Ave SE • Aberdeen, SD 57401 Phone: (605) 225-3600

- 🌀 Room block is reserved under "AER"
- 🌀 Non-state employee rates are \$72.00 plus tax per night
- 🌀 The block of rooms will be held until April 6, 2014

Registration and Conference Information will be available soon on the SD School for the Blind and Visually Impaired website <http://sdsbvi.northern.edu>.

Questions? Contact Amy Scepaniak, Tevan Fischbach, or Jane Mundschenk at 605-626-2580 or toll free at 1-888-275-3814.

We welcome and encourage Parents, Teachers, Special Education Teachers, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, Occupational Therapists, Orientation and Mobility Specialists, Rehabilitation Therapists, and anyone working or interested in the field of vision to attend this conference.

Incidental Learning or "Learning Outside of the Box"

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. 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.

So let's think about bread.....

There are a variety of quick **bread**s that you and your child can make together. And those mixes can also be baked as muffins, so "**bread**" can take a variety of shapes. Just think of the variety of shapes that are possible with yeast **bread**s: various shapes of loaves of **bread** (such as a regular loaf or French loaf), dinner rolls, breakfast rolls, or soft pretzels. Have a baking day where you bake these **bread**s from scratch so your child understands the whole process of mixing to rising to baking. There are several home-made flavors such as banana, pumpkin, zucchini, and harvest **bread** that are popular. But then another fun experience is going to a bakery and buying a variety of **bread** products. Notice the different shapes and flavors. Next go to the baking aisle of your grocery store and get a variety of boxed dry mixes; usually you only need to add a few wet ingredients to have a great product. Then see what is in the freezer department: lots there for ready-to-bake items!

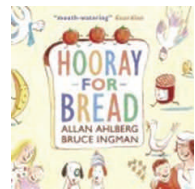
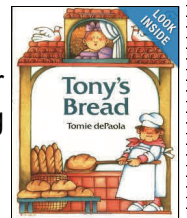


Once **bread** is baked, think of the different forms it can take on: toast, French toast, cut into cubes for stuffing, etc... Leftover dry **bread** can be saved and used to feed the birds or fish. Think of all the yummy toppings that can be spread on **bread**: peanut butter, jam, honey, butter, cinnamon/sugar, etc. Some other **bread** related items that can be discussed are what type of knife should be used to cut **bread** or is the **bread** already sliced. **Bread** is sometimes cut on a **bread** board and put in a **bread** basket. Now, while the weather is still cold, it is a great time to warm up the oven and do some baking. So we hope you enjoy the outcome of this fun learning experience!

Books about Bread.....

Tony's Bread: An Italian Folktale - (Putnam - 1996)

Tony dreams that one day he'll become the most famous baker in northern Italy. His poor daughter Serafina wants to be allowed to marry. Each of their dreams seems far away until Angelo, a rich young nobleman from Milan, appears and devises a way to make everyone's dreams come true.

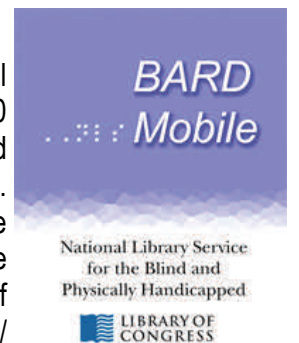


Hooray for Bread by Allan Ahlberg and Publisher Walker Books Ltd

Tells the story of a loaf of bread, told slice by yummy slice. This picture book celebrates bread, whether it's a yummy cheese and ham sandwich or some buttery toast. It rejoices for its crustiness and its crunchiness, its slices and its crumbs.

BARD Mobile

The BARD Mobile app provides access to braille and talking books directly from the National Library Services Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD). BARD contains nearly 50,000 books, magazines, and music scores in audio and Braille formats, with new selections added daily. With BARD Mobile, you can play the audio materials on your iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch. If your device is connected to a refreshable braille display through bluetooth, you can read the Braille materials available on BARD. Before you can use this BARD Mobile app, you must be registered with a braille and talking-book library in the NLS network of cooperating libraries. If you are not registered, contact the SD State Braille and Talking Book Library at <http://www.library.sd.gov/btb> or call 1-800-423-6665 for more information or to apply for service. Once you have an account, you are ready to begin using BARD Mobile. Download the free app for iPhone and iPad and sign in with your BARD user name and password. You'll only need to do this the first time you use the app.



Baking Bread with Children

Written by Kara Fleck, Simple Kids editor and Rockin' Granola Mama (adapted from *The Waldorf Kindergarten Snack Book*)

Ingredients

2 C very warm water
 large spoonful of honey (*used molasses*)
 1 T. yeast
 flour until you can't mix in any more (approx. 4 C)
 pinch or two of salt



Directions

1. **Make a Snack for the Yeast:** We call the first stage of the recipe "making a snack for the yeast" – where you are mixing the warm water in a large mixing bowl and then stirring in the molasses or honey. Yeast is very hungry, so we make them a "snack" to eat.



2. **Feed the Yeast:** Now it is time to feed the yeast by sprinkling it over the top of the "snack." Let it foam up and watch your children be amazed at those hungry yeast!

3. **Let it Snow:** Start adding the flour by making it "snow" into the bowl. Sprinkle in a pinch of salt, too. Keep adding flour "snow" – taking breaks to knead it into the dough – until the dough is stiff and no longer sticky. Have some fun!



Sing Let it Snow

4. **Taking a Nap:** *Whew!* Our dough is tired. It is time for the dough to take a little "nap" under a "blanket" (cover the bowl loosely with a towel and set in a warm spot to double in size for an hour or two).

5. **Make Shapes:** Peek under the blanket. Has your dough doubled in size? Okay, you're ready to knead it for a bit and then shape it into either a loaf, buns, or shaped breads. At our house we've been studying the alphabet, so some of the bread dough was formed in the shape of a letter A. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Give each child a portion of the dough, and you take some too, and form it into your shape for baking and place them on an oiled baking sheet.




7. **Another Rest:** Your dough is probably tired from all of that shaping, so it needs a brief rest under the blanket again (another 20 minutes or so, or while the oven preheats) before baking.


It isn't easy to be patient, is it? Maybe we should read some more stories or color a picture together.


8. **Bake:** At last, it is time to bake our bread. Into the 350 degree oven it goes for about 20 minutes, until light brown. Keep an eye on this, moms and dads, because smaller shaped breads and rolls will need less baking time.

9. **Enjoy!** Let your bread cool a bit on a rack and then slice it with a serrated bread knife and enjoy it with honey and butter.



Did you know?

 Eric Weinmayer, blind since the age of 13, was the first blind person to reach the summit of Mount Everest on May 25, 2001? He was 32 years old at the time. To learn more about his climb and other accomplishments, read his autobiography *Touch the Top of the World*, available through the National Library Services (NLS).
 



Story Box

One Winter's Day by M. Christina Butler

Targeted Vocabulary:

hedgehog, gust, cozy, shelter, badger, mice, otter, deer, prickly, and armchair

Contents:

- Story with tactile illustrations and braille,
- Nest of twigs and leaves,
- Fan, small hat, mittens, and scarf,
- Stuffed animals: Hedgehog, Badger, Deer, Mice, and Otter



Pre-Teaching the story:

- Before reading the story take your child for a walk and gather twigs and leaves, talk about how animals use them to make beds out of them. Make a bed or nest.
- On a cool, windy day take a walk and talk about how the wind feels and how it blows things around. Tie a balloon to your child's wrist so he/she can feel the pull of the balloon from the wind.

Using the story box:

- On the first day allow your child to examine the contents and ask questions about the items found. Spend time explaining the differences of the animals in the story. Read the story letting your child play with the items as you read.
 - On the second day have your child find the characters in the story as they are mentioned in the story.
 - On day three have your child act out the story as you read it to him. Repeat this for several more readings.
 - Finally have your child act out the story while telling it in his/her own words.
- Additional activities may include, taking a walk on a cool day then coming home and making hot chocolate.

Organizing a Kitchen

SDSBVI, is excited to start using our newly remodeled Activities of Daily Living Room (ADL Room)! It has 2 full kitchens (1 being accessible), dining area, and 3 full-sized refrigerator/freezers. Organization is essential in being able to fully enjoy any kitchen.



Here are some tips:

- Place items in close proximity to where they are needed: oven mitts near the oven, wash cloths near the sink, etc.
- Place most used items in easy-to-reach locations
- Put like items together all dinner plates and bowls, etc.
- High color contrast is an important element for low vision: 2-sided cutting boards with black on one side and white on the other offer great color contrast for any food you are cutting. And for easy viewing pour milk into a dark colored glass but Coke into a light colored glass---this is true for any food or drink you are preparing or serving
- While preparing food, it is helpful to "contain" your work area on large cookie sheets:
 - keep needed ingredients and kitchen tools on there until ready to use
 - it has your mixing bowl and mixing utensils on it
 - finished area to hold whatever you are done using; and if you are able to arrange yourself close to the sink and the trash can, items can be put directly there as tasks are finished
- Large print or braille items are available for a variety of kitchen items such as timers, thermometers, or cookbooks
- Labeling is also very important in staying organized; refer to our newsletter from Fall 2011 for labeling hints
- Safety: always know where the fire extinguisher is and have baking soda available to put out fires. Have fun and enjoy cooking in your nice and neat kitchen!

Normal Visual Development

"What is normal visual development?" The following chart identifies visual milestones for children from birth to 5 yrs of age.

At Birth		<p>Corneal reflex to touch Pupils react to light Rudimentary fixation Acuity estimated at about 20/400</p>
1-3 Months	1 Month	<p>Follows moving object to midline Regards faces</p>
	2 Months	<p>Eyes fixate, converge, and focus Follows vertical movements Prefers faces to complex patterns Attends to objects up to 6 feet away Becomes aware of bright lights (stares) and colors (yellow or orange or red)</p>
	3 Months	<p>Eye movements become smoother Glances at 1-inch object Anticipates feeding via visual stimulus</p>
4-5 Months	4 Months	<p>Regards hand Eyes begin to shift focus Recognizes familiar faces (smiles) Visually explores new environment Follows objects past midline Capable of horizontal, vertical, circular eye movements, though may still be somewhat uncoordinated Unsuccessful reach for dangling object Regards object in hand and mouths object</p>
	5 Months	<p>Eye-hand coordination developed and successful Gazes at objects close to eyes Can fixate at 3 feet and then shift gaze to near point</p>
6-7 Months	6 Months	<p>Eye movements coordinated and smooth Shifts visual attention easily Recognizes faces up to 6 feet away Form discrimination emerges Transfers object from hand to hand with visual monitoring May anticipate position of falling object Fixates where object has disappeared Acuity approximately 20/200</p>
	7 Months	<p>Manipulates objects Acuity near normal (20/20) Depth perception developing</p>

(continued on page 10)

Normal Visual Development

(continued from page 9)

	7-8 Months	Turns object in hand and explores visually
7-11 Months	9-11 Months	Can see tiny objects nearby Observes facial expressions and tries to imitate Looks for object seen hidden Visually alert to new objects, persons, places Visually monitors hand and body movements
12 Months		Far and near acuity good Binocular vision stronger Has focus and accommodation Depth perception good Discriminates geometric forms Scribbles spontaneously Visually monitors movement in space
12-18 Months		Vertical orientation (walking or building block towers) Matches identical objects Points to pictures in a book Scribbles vertically, horizontally, and in circular motions Identifies forms
18-24 Months		Inspects objects visually (alone) Imitates movements of others Increased visual memory All optical skills smooth Matches color and form
3 Years		Matches simple forms (form board) Can do simple puzzles Can draw crude circle Places 1-inch peg in holes
4 Years		Discriminates size (matching) Good depth perception (accurate) Discriminates length of lines Copies cross Discriminates most forms Eye-hand coordination precise
5 Years		Picks up and releases objects precisely Colors, cuts, pastes Gross motor control better than fine Can draw a square Nests blocks with visual judgment Perceives detail in pictures

Summer Fun & Learning

Summer is just around the corner and our snow will melt! The deadline for the SDSBVI Summer School Program is fast approaching...**May 1, 2014!** Get your registration form in soon. The dates include the following:

Session I

Week 1: June 8

Week 2: June 15

Week 3: June 22

Session II

Week 4: July 6

Week 5: July 13

Week 6: July 20

The Summer Program specifically addresses and provides opportunities for students with visual impairments to focus on the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC). Areas of focus include the following learning experiences:

- ☞ Assistive Technology
- ☞ Compensatory Academic Skills, including communication modes (Braille)
- ☞ Sensory Efficiency Skills (Auditory, Tactile, and Visual)
- ☞ Self-Determination (Advocating for Self)
- ☞ Orientation and Mobility (Cane and Travel Skills)

LOOK FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION TO ARRIVE IN THE MAIL SOON! If you need an application, contact your Outreach Vision Consultant or you can find the forms on our website at <http://sdsbvi.northern.edu>.

Family Swim: July 25, 2014

As the summer is winding down we invite our families to enjoy an afternoon of swimming at the Aberdeen Aquatics Center. If you would like more information, contact Amy Scepaniak at 605-626-2580 or toll-free 1-888-275-3814 or email: amy.scepaniak@sdsbvi.northern.edu.

Consultants' Contact Information

North Central

AMY SCEPANIAK

SDSBVI Outreach Vision Consultant
423 17th Avenue SE, Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-626-2580 or 1-888-275-3814
605-380-8927 (cell)
amy.scepaniak@sdsbvi.northern.edu

South Central

INDIRA DILLON

SDSBVI Outreach Vision Consultant
PO Box 1046, Mitchell, SD 57301
605-995-8191
605-941-3868 (cell)
indira.dillon@sdsbvi.northern.edu

Eastern

JULIE VANDOVER

SDSBVI Outreach Vision Consultant
423 17th Avenue SE, Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-626-2580 or 1-888-275-3814
605-380-8926 (cell)
julie.vandover@sdsbvi.northern.edu

Western

SUSAN EGGING

SDSBVI Outreach Vision Consultant
211 Main St, Suite 101, Spearfish SD 57783
605-717-0301
605-269-1405 (cell)
Email: susan.egging@sdsbvi.northern.edu



SD School for the Blind
and Visually Impaired
423 17TH AVENUE SE
ABERDEEN SD 57401-7699

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 17

Change
Service
Requested



CONSULTANTS' CORNER, WINTER 2014 Volume 16, Issue 2. Published three times during the school year by the SD School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 423 17th Ave SE, Aberdeen, SD 57401. Printed by the SDSBVI at a cost of 47 cents per issue.



Christmas Family Fun

The Family Support Group met in December at the School just prior to the Christmas Program. The parents and grandparents who attended were able to make a tactile button ornament in the shape of a snowman or Christmas tree for their child to hang on the tree. We also made tactile gift tags for parents to use on their child's package. A special thanks to Lori Gellhaus, Outreach Secretary, for



the ornament ideas and organizing the materials. Also to Amy Scepaniak and Julie Van Dover for showing accessibility features for the iPad. If you would like more information about the Family Support Group, contact Amy Scepaniak at 605-626-2580 or toll-free at 1-888-275-3814 or by email at amy.scepaniak@sdsbvi.northern.edu.

Family Weekend: Walk a Mile in My Shoes

SAVE THE DATE - Have you ever wondered what your child experiences on a daily basis when it comes to basic skills for living independently? If so, plan to attend the 4th Annual SDSBVI Family Weekend June 7-8, 2014. We are planning a fun-filled and informative agenda with lots of simulated hands-on activities. Watch for further information or visit with your Outreach Consultant.

