

#  VISION IMPAIRMENT TEAM NEWSLETTER

**Issue 3: 22.05.20**

**Update**

Following Government and Local Authority advice, whilst working from home, the Vision Impairment Team continue to work on behalf of your children and young people. We are available for telephone/email support Monday-Friday 9am-5pm (see details at the bottom of this newsletter)

**Visual stimulation apps for young children/those with visual processing difficulties/complex needs**

* Baby Shapes!
* Visual Stimulation
* Baby games app
* Omni & Ilona: Happy Animals
* My First: High Contrast Images
* Mommy Saver
* Black White Animals for Babies
* Infant Stimulation Pack by treebetty £9.99 (4-app bundle)
* Baby View £2.99

**Sound apps**

* Touch the Sound £0.99 – recognise familiar sounds and match them to the picture
* Sound Touch Lite– recognise real animal sounds and/or photographs of the animals
* Animal Sounds
* Tiny Piano
* Music Sparkles



**Free dual language e-books**

Mantra Lingua are offering free dual language e-books for children. In addition, parents can read information relating to covid-19 in their chosen home language

<https://www.mangtralingua.com/homereading>

Michael Morpurgo is just one of more than 100 people who have contributed to The Book of Hopes, a book to inspire children during the pandemic. See a clip of Michael reading and more information here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/entertainment-arts-52618997/michael-morpurgo-s-submission-in-the-book-of-hopes-aims-to-lift>

The Book Trust has amazing activities and videos to keep boredom at bay!

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/open-the-hometime-cupboard/>

### Author Sally Nicholls' brand new book Staying Home tells the story of a family of racoons getting through a day of lockdown together.

Download the book for free:

<https://www.andersenpress.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/STAYING_HOME_medium-res.pdf>

**IDEAS FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES**

**LOOK UK** offer a free webinar for parents of children transitioning to secondary school on 26th May at 7pm

<https://www.look-uk.org/supporting-your-vi-child-during-their-transition-to-high-school>

Theyalso have several online “meet ups” for different age groups. See website for details.

**British Blind Sport** provide videos to encourage physical activity, which have good audio descriptions, such as this pilates/yoga session:

<https://britishblindsport.org.uk/stayinworkout-pilates-yoga-stretch/>

**Positive Eye** has compiled a page of resources to provide families with fun ideas, activities and inspiration during periods of times spent at home:

<https://www.facebook.com/PositiveEyeIdeaMachine/>

**SENSE** has developed a set of play toolkits to provide information on enabling children with complex needs to enjoy inclusive play

<https://www.sense.org.uk/get-support/support-for-children/play-toolkits/>

**Guide Dogs** – click on the link to see a range of resources for learning at home:

<https://guidedogs.org.uk/coronavirus/Services/Resources-for-learning-at-home>

**BBC SOUNDS Jane Taylor explains on In Touch how people with low vision can exercise more easily:**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000hvlv>

**RSBC** offer advice and information as well as activities for children and young people with VI

<https://www.rsbc.org.uk>

**Bold Tendencies** are running creative workshops for 5-14 year olds or those with SEND

<https://www.boldtendencies.com>

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**Ideas/Suggestions**

If you would like any further information or wish to share resources with other families, please get in touch and we can include these in future newsletters