



The Arizona Deafblind Project

NEWSLETTER

April 17, 2020



Image: A pink “Supermoon” rises up over mountain tops, Credit: [Ken Bosma](#)

Educating Learners with Combined Vision and Hearing Loss during COVID-19

The field of deafblind education places a high value on interaction, closeness and hands-on learning. During a time of school closures, distance and virtual learning can seem like a mismatch for our unique and diverse group of learners.

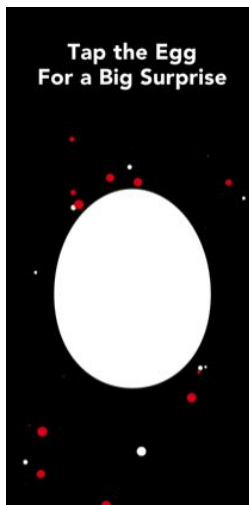
The Arizona Deafblind Project acknowledges

- Most of us are dealing with an overwhelming amount of incoming information
- New formats for learning will take time and patience
- We can try and do a little when we feel ready

Tip of the Week **Activities for CVI Learners**

[Little Bear Sees](#) reminds us [Cortical Visual Impairment](#) (CVI) is a term used to describe visual impairment that occurs due to brain injury. We've gathered just a few activities specific to children and youth with CVI.

Keep in mind activities are most accessible and meaningful when they are tailored through consultation with service providers who have background in CVI assessment and instruction.



Apps and more Apps! Tablet devices offer backlighting features that many children and youth with CVI and Low Vision are drawn to.

[Click here](#) for 20 Android apps for kids with CVI and low vision

[Click here](#) for Wonderbaby's list of the 20 top iPad apps for CVI

[Image: White egg shape against a black background with the text "Tap the egg for a big surprise." Source: [Infant Zoo Sounds for Baby](#)]

Light Boxes can be a motivating activity for children with CVI and Low Vision. There is a [Do-It-Yourself parent blog](#) for anyone who wants to build their own light box. You can also turn an iPad into a [Light Box](#) for 99 cents. Looking for some different activities to try out with the Light Box? Let's [dive down the Pinterest hole, shall we?](#)

[Image: A tub of colored sand on top of a light box is manipulated by a small hand holding a paintbrush; Source: [TeachPreschool.org](#)]





Videos

Alissa DeSousa has a [YouTube Channel](#) with many CVI friendly Stories in video format. Thanks to our friends at Paths to Literacy for the [original post!](#) [Image: Screenshot of a youtube video, all black background with white letters outlined in red that reads “The Itsy Bitsy Spider.”]

You might also be interested in reading [Diane Sheline’s blog](#), including downloadable templates for CVI-friendly books at various phases or brushing up on CVI Characteristics with Dr. Christine Roman through this [Perkins Webcast](#).

Free Resource!

The [Described and Captioned Media Program](#) currently offers access to over 8000 high-quality captioned and audio described videos for registered users. Check out the “old” Bravo series of ASL instruction as well as thousands of other offerings accessible to students with sensory impairment. And thanks to Tina Feldman at ASDB-Tucson Campus for the reminder about this resource.

Related Media

Beginning ASL Videocourse #1: Meet The Bravo Family	Beginning ASL Videocourse #2: Breakfast With The Bravo Family	Beginning ASL Videocourse #3: Where's The TV Remote?	Beginning ASL Videocourse #4: Let's Go Food Shopping!

[Image: Screenshot of a series of media clips for beginning ASL videocourses including “Meet the Bravo Family, Breakfast with the Bravo Family, Where’s the TV Remote? And Let’s Go Food Shopping!”]

“I don’t know about you, but I struggle all the time these days to make sense of the world. Imagine if no one could explain to you why you suddenly couldn’t see your family — or were stuck with them 24/7. Why you couldn’t go on a trip you’d been planning for or even leave the house.”

Amy Silverman, journalist and an Arizona mother of a 17 year-old daughter with Down Syndrome, asks others to [imagine what it would be like if no one could explain to you why a pandemic has completely changed your life](#). She writes about the experiences of several families with young adults with Intellectual Disabilities.

[Image Credit: Ray Stern; A young person sits up on a sofa, covered by a blanket typing on a laptop.]



If you have needs the newsletter does not address, Deafblind Project Specialists can be available by phone or through video conference during school closures in Arizona.

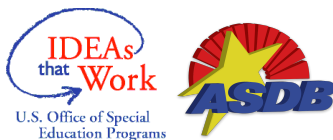
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