

Connections

A Newsletter For Teachers Working With Autism
Educational Equity For All



May 2020

School Closure Toolkit

Version 1.0 3/14/20



- Schedules
- Token Board
- Resources

eastersealschicago.org

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Access our award-winning library of over 2,000 visually stunning science and social studies articles on any internet-enabled device, at any time. If you would like individual access to Kids Discover Online, we are offering 3 free months of access. Click the link below and select Buy Educator Plan (no money will be due). You will be prompted to sign into your Kids Discover Online account, or to create/register for one. When checking out, choose the Purchase Order option and enter the Code FREETHREE in the Coupon Code AND Purchase Order fields (there is no need to enter in your Credit Card information). This will result in a \$0 checkout, and will give you and your students unlimited access to Kids Discover Online for 3 months.

<https://online.kidsdiscover.com/pricing?recommendedPlanId=3>



Don't miss the next Sensory Friendly Film!



All theaters are closed until further notice. Hopefully, it won't be much longer.

Movie Showings for Guests & Families Living with Autism or Other Special Needs

AMC is proud to partner with the Autism Society to bring you unique movie showings where you can feel free to be you! We turn the lights up, and turn the sound down, so you can get up, dance, walk, shout or sing!

We are now expanding our Sensory Friendly Film program to four showings per month.

- The second and fourth Tuesday and Saturday.
- Family-friendly movies will continue to show Saturdays, starting at 10am local time
- We've added Tuesday showings at 7pm local time that may appeal to others on the autism spectrum.

Tickets are \$4-6 depending on location and can be purchased on the day of the event. To find a participating theater:

<https://www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films>

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY FOR ALL
..... Giving kids what they need to succeed.

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FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



StoryboardThat

Remote Learning with Storyboard
ThatDigitalStorytelling
Powerful Visual Communication, Made Easy



Designed for YOU:
Graphic Novels and Comics
Projects and Planning
Posters, Video Planning and
More!

<https://www.storyboardthat.com/articles/e/remote-learning>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://autismworktasks.com/>

<https://www.theottoolbox.com/sensory-processing-disorder-information>

<https://www.shmoop.com/>



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Outschool School Closures

Sign up for Online Teacher Training

Live webinars, advice, learning solutions and experienced help from Outschool, the top-rated provider of interactive online classes for students aged 3-18.

Learn to teach online. [Sign up for a free webinar](#) taught by highly qualified K-12 educators with years of online teaching experience

<https://sites.google.com/outschool.com/teaching-online/home>

How a Sensory Diet Can Help Your Child: Guide and Resources

Do you ever chew gum or fidget with a pen during a meeting at work? Do you take a walk to stay alert during the afternoon lull?

When you do these things, you're providing the sensory input your body needs to remain focused and attentive throughout the day.

For kids with sensory processing issues, these needs are even more intense. Without exposure to the input they need, they can struggle with demonstrating appropriate behavior, remaining alert, and keeping themselves organized and in control.

A sensory diet is a program of sensory activities kids perform during the day to ensure they're getting the input their bodies need. An occupational therapist usually designs it. Whether the concept of sensory diets is new to you or you're looking for more specific information for your child, the following guide can help.

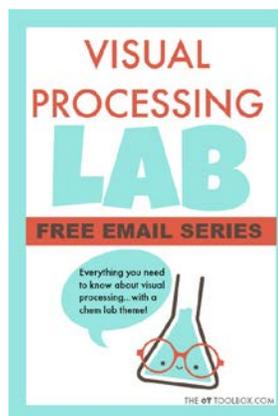
The term "sensory input" refers to experiences that stimulate the various sensory systems of our bodies. Some people with sensory processing issues demonstrate behaviors indicating they need more input to their sensory systems.

<https://www.healthline.com/health/guide-to-sensory-diet#1>

 To help educators during this time of coronavirus, we have pulled our most popular science lessons and are offering them for anyone to use for free. No account or login is needed. Copy and paste the links below into your documents and use them however they might be helpful! Mystery Science is the creator of the most popular science lessons in U.S. schools.

<https://mysteryscience.com/school-closure-planning>

RECOMMENDED READING & VIDEO



FREE VISUAL PROCESSING LAB [VISUAL MOTOR SKILLS](#)

When you join us in lab, you'll get a free 15 page lab book that is your guide to understanding visual processing.

In visual processing lab, we'll cover:

The Big Picture of Visual Processing (including definitions). Taking a closer look at visual processing (including specifics and "red flags"). Experiments, Interventions, Reflection on the lab contents. We'll also do two hands-on experiments as part of the lab, and intervention ideas.

<https://www.theottoolbox.com/free-visual-processing-lab>



4 weeks of daily activities with video, movement, and stories that are done remotely. Currently all free access Pre-K through 9th.

Build Early Reading Skills with Delightful Magazines-Featuring playful texts and bright photos, magazines will engage your little learners at home.

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>