

NMSBVI'S VIRTUAL
VISION BEE
APRIL 23 & 26



Welcome to Our Virtual Conference!

NMSBVI is happy to welcome you to our first 100% virtual Vision Bee, “Noah is Spinning and Sophia is Sleeping...” Sensory Strategies to Facilitate Learning. This Vision Bee is full of practical ways to engage learners and optimize the neurological and sensory experiences for children who are blind/visually impaired, including those with multiple impairments. The presenters, who have taught and/or provided therapy for many years, are excited to offer this training on a topic about which they have much passion and expertise. We hope you are able to attend both days and that you are able to implement some of the things you learn from the training.

Thank you,

~ **Mark Carter, NMSBVI Statewide Training Coordinator**

Sensory Strategies to Facilitate Learning NMSBVI Vision Bee • A Two Day Virtual Training April 23, 9am - Noon and April 26, 1pm - 4pm

At the conclusion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Identify ways to build relationships and emotional connections with students
- Identify ways learners, including those with severe/profound developmental delays, can be taught that will optimize the neurological and sensory experience
- Use an understanding of how to collaborate with others to get students in a place where learning can be maximized
- Identify how to use a sensory diet and create a feel good menu to facilitate learning
- Use an understanding of a sensory routine to maximize learning for students

Schedule of Virtual Presentations

Zoom meeting instructions:

Please connect to the Zoom meeting early, due to the high volume of attendees. The Zoom sign-in will start 30 minutes prior to the training. Make sure your name appears in your window (e.g., not your phone number or someone else's name) and mute your microphone. Thank you!

Here is the Zoom meeting link:

<https://zoom.us/j/93296886863?pwd=Y1kvV08xNDVnSFY0dS9BQVByZTFJUT09>

Friday, April 23

- 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM **Mary Vaughn, TSVI;
and Ron Later, TSVI/COMS**
- 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM **Millie Smith, M. ED**
- 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM **Andrea Montaña, OT/L, DS III**
- 11:30 AM – NOON **Wrap-up and Questions
for today's participants**

Monday, April 26

- 1:00 PM – 1:30 PM ... **Michelle Chacon, MA COMS, TSVI;
and Kristy Bates, MA**
- 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM **Audrey Bergen, OTR/L**

Mary Vaughn TSVI

and Ron Later TSVI/COMS

Friday, April 23 • 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM

- Collaboration between a teacher and orientation and mobility (O&M) specialist to maximize the learning experience during O&M lesson for a student.

Mary Vaughn, TSVI

Mary Vaughn is a licensed TSVI who has worked with students aged preschool to 21, for 14 years. She has served various roles, but especially in Intensive Support Programs. She is currently the Instructional Resource Center Coordinator at NMSBVI. She is passionate about working with students and families.



Ron Later, COMS, TSVI, NMSBVI Summer Program Coordinator

Ron Later was one of Dr. Jane Erin's last students at the University of Texas program and taught as an itinerant teacher in Texas before joining the staff at NMSBVI. He has been an O&M at the NMSBVI residential campus in Alamogordo since 1999. He created the O&M Inventory, a free computer-based ongoing assessment tool.



Millie Smith M. ED

Friday, April 23 • 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

- Share the results a study to establish a baseline (December) of four learners and following them and their teams through the remainder of the school year (May).
- The video-documented study saw the learners, who functioned at the sensorimotor stage of cognitive development, successfully achieve their goals through Sensory Learning Kit routine-based instruction.
- Will include showing video tapes of the learners and an explanation of the intervention strategies used.

Millie Smith, M. ED.

Millie Smith, M. ED., is a consultant who works with learners who have visual on multiple impairments. Since retiring from the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, she conducts workshops, gives private consultations, and is a respected author. Millie has shared her experience and knowledge with families and teachers by writing articles and through her books, particularly “Sensory Learning Teacher Guidebook and Assessment Forms.” Honored and recognized by her peers, Millie has been a recipient of an AER Bledsoe award, an AER Virginia Sowell Award, and twice the recipient of the APH Virgil Zickel award.



Andrea Montaña OT/L, DS III

Friday, April 23 • 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM

- Sensory integration issues that impact birth to 3 year old learners.
- Strategies for parents/caregivers to create positive learning experiences for children.
- What is the impact on learning of the fight, flight or freeze responses?
- Circle of security and co-regulation.
- How to read the cues of young learners and respond consistently to help them grow and develop.

Andrea Montaña, OT/L, DS III

Andrea Montaña is a Developmental Vision Specialist and Occupational Therapist who has been working with babies and toddlers in early intervention for 23 years. She is passionate about helping families understand sensory processing needs and their impact on learning.



Michelle Chacon MA COMS, TSVI

and Kristy Bates MA

Monday, April 26 • 1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

- Collaboration between a vision specialist and special education teacher to provide meaningful learning experiences to enhance the tactual/daily living skills of students who are blind.

Michele Chacon, MA COMS

Michelle is a licensed TSVI and COMS who previously served as an Outreach Consultant for the New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired where she mentored interns in New Mexico State University's Visual Impairment Program. In her 22 years in the blindness field, Michelle has worked and is currently working as an itinerant in the public schools. She has also served as a home management instructor at different rehabilitation agencies. In these various roles, she has worked with preschool-age children through adults who are blind or low vision, some of whom also had additional exceptionalities. Michelle continues to pursue an educational administrative license. She is also the recipient of the Blind Educator Award on July 3, 2014, an award issued by the National Federation of the Blind.



Kristy Bates, MA

Kristy Bates is a Special Education Teacher who works with students who have severe and multiple disabilities to help them prepare for life after high school. She believes in the whole child approach by collaborating with families and service providers to provide academic and functional skills for special education students. She has taught students with severe disabilities for 12 years with the last 10 years at George Washington High School in Denver Public Schools. She is also a Senior Team Lead providing instructional coaching to other teachers. Kristy Bates holds a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education Social Sciences from the University of Nebraska and a Master's Degree in Special Education from Regis University.



Audrey Bergen OTR/L

Monday, April 26 • 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

- Brief review of Sensory Integration.
- Sensory strategies to facilitate regulation for students across the lifespan.
- How to work with students in the moment to maximize learning.
- Importance of educating the team to help maximize learning across environments.
- Ideas on how to incorporate sensory strategies throughout the day in the form of sensory diets.

Audrey Bergen, OTR/L

Audrey Bergen is a native New Mexican who has a B.A. in Psychology, she is a licensed massage therapist, and graduated from University of New Mexico's Occupational Therapy department in 2000. She has worked as a pediatric occupational therapist in the private sector and the school setting for the past 20 years. Audrey also works with the state's DD waiver providing occupational therapy to adults with disabilities. She has been with NMSBVI for the past 10 years. Audrey has presented on a local and national level on the topics of sensory processing and animal assisted therapy for children with autism.



SENSORY PROCESSING DISORDER (SPD)

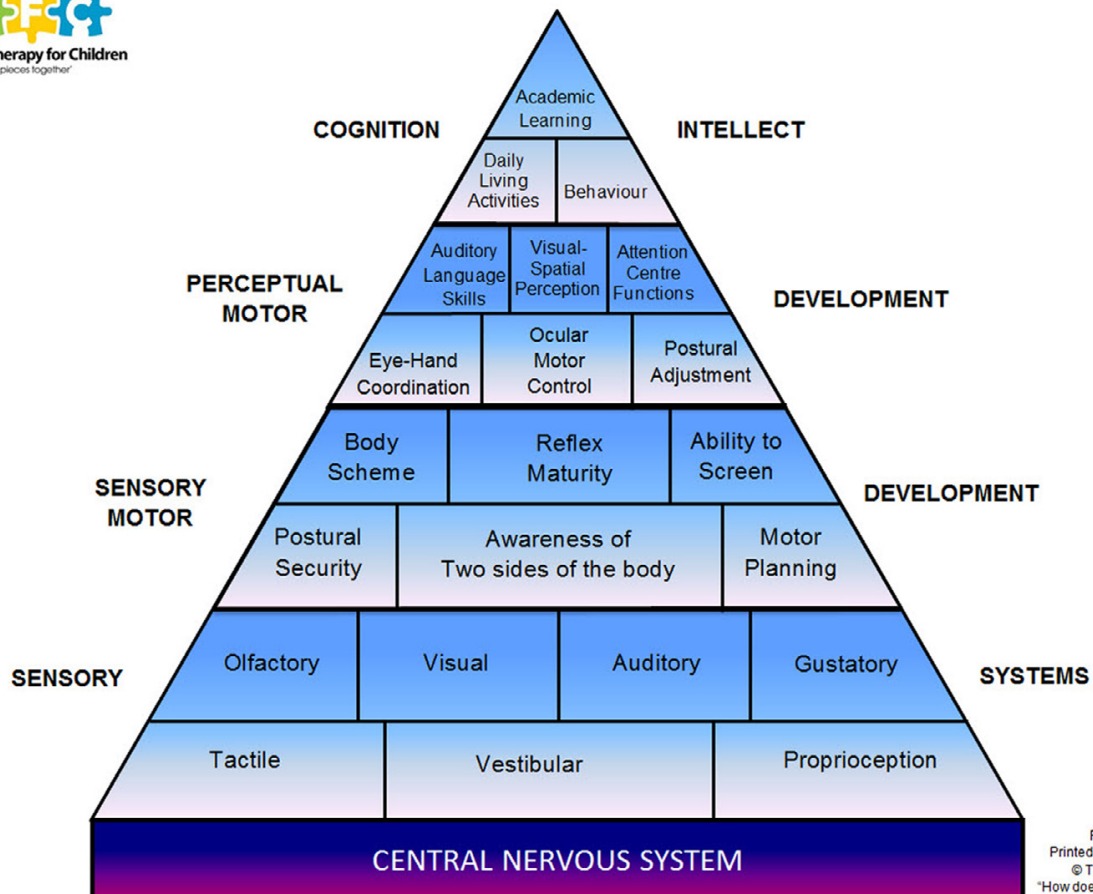
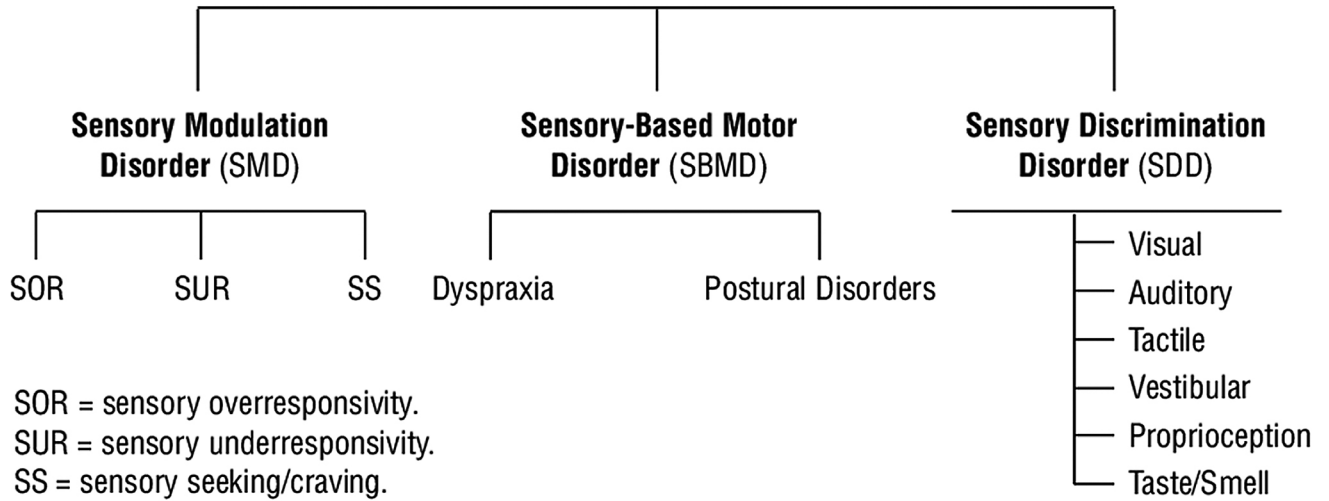


Figure 1-3.
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 "How does your engine run?"

Calming/Alerting Activities for Sensory Processing Disorder Chart

	ALERTING	CALMING
Mouth Food Texture	Crunchy, biting	Smooth, creamy, sucking
Mouth Food Taste	Sour, bitter, salty, spicy foods Coffee Herbal tea (peppermint, spicy)	Sweet foods Bland foods Herbal tea (chamomile, lavender)
Mouth Food Temperature	Cool/cold drinks Cool/cold food	Warm drinks Warm foods
Mouth Heavy Work	Crunching Biting Sucking smoothies through straw Water bottle w/straw - need to suck (lemon; ice)	Chewing gum Chewing foods *Sucking
Touch Pressure	Light or jerky touch Bug bite Staccato touch Stroking with feather Rubber band wrist snapping Tickling	Rhythmic pressure Massage Bear Hug Wilbarger skin brushing Skin tapping Holding/petting a pet Wrapped in heavy blanket Body Rolling
Touch Temperature	Cool ambient temperature Cold/cool shower Holding/rubbing ice on hands, face Wrapped in cool bed sheets Cold wraps	Hot shower/bath Fireplace Warm towels Warm wraps
Touch Texture	Rough, prickly materials/fabrics Dry w/textured towel, fast movements Clothing w/noticeable textures	Smooth/soft materials/fabrics Soft terry towel Clothing w/soft textures, natural cotton
Touch Vibration	Vibration mat	
Move Movement	Fast or jerky Hip/hop movement	Smooth, rhythmic movements
Move Joints/Muscles	Aerobic exercise Power walks	Isometric exercises Yoga
Move Heavy Work Body	Bumpy car ride Exercise bands Weighted vest during work out	Rocking in rocking chair Swinging on swing

www.nclexquiz.com

Book References

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- Smith, M., Chambers, S., Campbell, A., Pierce, T., McCarthy, T., & Kostewicz, D. E. (2020). "Use of Routine-Based Instruction to Develop Object Perception Skills with Students Who Have Visual Impairments and Severe Intellectual Disabilities: Two Case Studies". *Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness*, 114(2), 101–113.
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Thank You!

Thank you to the Vision Bee planning committee:
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Lorraine Adam, Millie Smith, Andrea Montaña,
Mary Vaughn, Ron Later, Patty Beecher,
Audrey Bergen, Dr. Loana Mason, and Angela Harris.

Special thanks to Angela Harris for her work on the continuing education credits and setting up and conducting registration; to Cindy Huff, Julie Nagle, and NMSD for providing interpreting services; to Sharon Hilton and NMSBVI for producing handouts in braille; and to Joanna Bradley for designing the training flyer & program.

***...and many thanks
to all of our Vision Bee presenters and attendees!***



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