

This **Workshop Series for Birth to Six Families** focuses on child and family. It is intended to link you and your child with knowledge about sensory and tactile supports, accommodations, and adaptations that promote development and support your child's efforts. You will learn some strategies to be creative, consistent, and motivating; how to engage, and realize the importance of unhurried exchanges.

Children who are blind or visually impaired have unique needs. The effects of vision loss on development is wide reaching. As parents you are your child's first educator. To help facilitate your teaching, the following topics will be included in workshop discussions:

- Parent expectations.
- Strengthening family involvement.
- Adapting the home environment.
- Communication development.
- Concept development.
- Spatial awareness.
- Listening skills.
- Social interaction & developmental growth.
- Adaptive techniques and equipment.

Wisconsin, it is estimated, has 1500 blind/visually impaired/ deafblind children including those with multiple disabilities statewide.

Plan to join us for one or more of these exciting workshops! First-come first-serve as only 6 families will be accepted in this first series of workshops.

For more information please contact:  
Tricia Weis, Birth to 6 Vision Consultant  
608-758-6150  
tricia.weis@wcbvi.k12.wi.us

For information about other WCBVI sponsored activities, visit our website: [www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us](http://www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us)

For questions about Outreach Programs contact:

Stacy Grandt - Outreach Director  
1700 W State St, Janesville WI 53546  
stacy.grandt@wcbvi.k12.wi.us  
608-758-6145, Toll free 866-284-1107 Ext. 2  
Fax: 608-758-6169



**NEW!! -- Birth to 6 Family Workshop Series.**  
Choose from 4 different parent/child sessions.  
Limited to 6 families (child, mom and dad).  
See inside for details about each workshop.  
Nov. 25, 2008, Jan 15, April 24, and June 3, 2009.  
WCBVI Janesville WI Campus.

**Official DPI Nondiscrimination Clause**  
The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.  
The Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired is a part of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Division for Learning Support: Equity and Advocacy.



Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
1700 West State Street  
Janesville WI 53546  
[www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us](http://www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us)



WCBVI Outreach presents...

# “Home Stretch”

## 2008-2009 Workshop Series for Birth to Six Families



**Programming**  
that honors your children as  
individuals in their own right.

**Concepts & Strategies**  
you can apply to your  
home environment.

**Outcomes**  
that result in your child's and  
your own unfolding.

**November 25, 2008 (Tuesday)**  
(Early Literature and Pre-Braille Skills)  
**January 15, 2009 (Thursday)**  
(Fine Motor Skills and Creative Art)  
**April 24, 2009 (Friday)**  
(Gross Motor Skills and Active Learning)  
**and June 3, 2009 (Wednesday)**  
(Routines and Transitioning In-between)

**Limited to 6 Families**  
with a child who is blind or visually  
impaired, including those with  
multiple disabilities.  
(Sign up for one or all; 1st-come 1st-serve.)

**WCBVI-Campus, Janesville, WI**

**Tuesday, November 25, 2008**

**Early Literature and Pre-Braille Skills**

Experience how fun and easy it is to bring literature into your child's life aurally, tactually and visually!

- ~Promote tactual exploration with a "book box!"
- ~Learn how to provide hands-on experiences with real objects to lay the foundation for concept development and reading comprehension!
- ~Enhance your child's language skills while teaching concepts by doing everyday activities slightly differently!
- ~Discover, through play, how to develop braille skills!
- ~Gain a new understanding of the power of your voice to stimulate & motivate discovery!
- ~Continue your exploration by taking home a book box as an example for making more!

**Thursday, January 15, 2009**

**Fine Motor Skills and Creative Art**

Come learn answers to the question "What activities can my child do now?" by enhancing fine motor skills creatively.

- ~Learn there is a "developmental sequence" to establishment of grasp and use of the hands i.e. fine motor skills. Be a facilitator!
- ~Reinforce residual vision and eye/hand coordination skills using a "light box!"
- ~Develop object recognition skills with fun games using simple everyday objects!
- ~Know about adaptations needed to avoid overstimulation of children with low vision.
- ~Learn about effects of color and how to plan engaging art projects with tools as simple as chocolate pudding!
- ~Understand the significance of using hand-under-hand often. Some blind/VI babies have or will develop tactual defensiveness. Honor and respond to "No, thank you" choices.

**Friday, April 24, 2009**

**Gross Motor Skills and Active Learning**

You will learn the sequence of gross motor development while bringing home ideas of how to implement structured play activities within your home that will motivate your child to move.

- ~Discover the importance of how a child learns from their own movements.
- ~Develop habits that introduce and connect your child to his/her environment -- reach...touch, touch...move!
- ~Practice new ways of engaging your baby.
- ~Become aware of how you may inadvertently be your child's obstacle or barrier.
- ~Experience hands-on exploration and find out how children who are blind/VI absorb and develop motor skills.
- ~Learn why "tummy-time" though often rejected by babies who are blind/VI is so important!
- ~Take an "active learning" tool home with you for continuing play.

**Wednesday, June 3, 2009**

**Routines and Transitioning In-between**

How do you handle daily routines? Providing a known beginning & end, creates a comforting environment and leads to your child's understanding the sequence of events.

- ~Experience the power of anticipation.
- ~Gain a new understanding of using a consistent location in the home for daily routines such as diaper changing, eating, bathtime, and playtime.
- ~Understand voice and/or touch cues.
- ~Learn why talking aloud prepares your child for movement; use a "1-2-3" count before lifting baby.
- ~Uncover "teachable moments."
- ~Learn about how calendar systems can play a part in your child's routine.
- ~Develop processing time for the "in-between."

**Registration Form--Home Stretch**

(Workshops are intended for mom & dad & child.)

Please register us for:  **November 25, 2008, 10am-2pm**  
 **January 15, 2009, 10am-2pm**  
 **April 24, 2009, 10am-2pm**  
 **June 3, 2009, 10am-2pm**

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age\_\_\_\_ DOB\_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M F

Ocular Diagnosis\_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total # attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_, WI Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Home E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

Served by:  Birth-to-3 Service Coordinator  
 Early Childhood Teacher

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

Workshops are from 10am-2pm. Lunch is included.

Return **Registration Form**  
no later than November 11, 2008 to:

Tricia Weis  
WCBVI-Outreach  
1700 W State Street  
Janesville WI 53546  
Or  
Fax 608-758-6169

Date Form Received: \_\_\_\_\_