



Canberra Deaf Children's Association September 2008 Newsletter

President: Luke Halpin (6254 8659 or 0411 051 958)

Treasurer: Kate McKenzie (6259 7194)

Secretary: Alex Turner (6161 8083)

Vice President & Newsletter Editor: Wendy McMullen (6284 8143)

Email via Website: www.canberradeafkids.org.au

What is CDCA?

The Canberra Deaf Children's Association (CDCA) is a non-profit community organisation that endeavors to provide support and information to parents and families on issues affecting deaf and hearing-impaired children. This includes all sorts of hearing loss such as sensorineural, conductive and unilateral.

We also provide information to other interested people in the community, teachers and students.

CDCA acts as a lobby group to relevant Government Departments and other Organizations on behalf of Deaf and Hearing Impaired children, their parents and their families.

Membership is open to parents, relatives and friends of deaf and hearing-impaired children. Membership includes borrowing rights for the Toy and Resource Library and a newsletter issued six times a year.

Toy and Resource Library

The Toy Library is located in the Deafness Resource Centre, and is open by appointment. Please contact Alex Turner on 61618083 if you wish to access the library. Please leave a message for her if she is not immediately available. Most items can be borrowed for a month.

Our library contains:

- captioned videos with a good variety of titles,
- books and games for children of all ages,
- Reference books and other resources for parents and families.

Inside today.....

- Cool Kids Cool Parents Workshop report
- CDCA AGM 13 November
- 'MyTime' playgroups
- The Wiggles concert
- CDCA Christmas Party!
- CDCA Member Profile

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Telephone: 6284 8143 or
6254 8659 After hours

CDCA AGM Meeting:

The date has been set for the evening of 13 November at 7.30pm for the Canberra Deaf Children's Association AGM meeting. This is an important date for members to find out more about the CDCA and an opportunity to contribute your thoughts and ideas. There will be a most essential cuppa and evening supper. We hope to see most of our members there. Just a reminder that members are also welcome at any of the bi-monthly meetings—please phone or email us for the dates.

Cool Kids Cool Parents:

(by Wendy McMullen)

Eight families including myself, participated in the Cool Kids Cool Parents Workshop on 13 and 14 September in Canberra. This free workshop was presented by Deaf Children Australia and was about sharing the challenges of raising young deaf and hearing impaired children. We had a great venue at the Canberra Shepherd Centre in Rivett. Our children were cared for by a wonderful team of volunteers including staff from the Shepherd Centre — the kids had a great time and we were able to totally relax and concentrate on the program. We were also nurtured with a fantastic array of delicious food lovingly made by Trish. It was an opportunity to share ideas and topics included parenting, siblings, discipline and practical information relating to raising children with hearing loss.

CDCA Website:

We are now able to upload previous CDCA newsletters on our website so please check them out if you are a recent member!

MyTime playgroup:

MyTime are local support groups for parents and carers of young children with a disability or chronic medical condition. ACT Playgroups facilitates one of these playgroups held in Cook Playroom on Thursdays from 12pm to 2pm. For more information please call Debra or Fiona on 1800 171 882.

The Wiggles:

The Wiggles are coming to town again! The concert will be here in Canberra on Tuesday 9th December 2008. The CDCA have obtained some great seats so reply ASAP to the email we sent out if you have little ones who love the Wiggles!

CDCA Christmas Party:

The CDCA Christmas Party will be on 30 November. The venue is still to be confirmed but please keep this date free as it will be lots of fun for the whole family!

Online Resources:

CDCA Website

www.canberradeafkids.org.au

Aussie Deaf Kids

Online support and information for parents of deaf & hearing impaired children in Australia. Share experiences, ideas and concerns with other parents who really understand how you feel.

www.aussiedeafkids.com

Deaf Children Australia

The Deaf Children Australia Helpline is an information, support and referral service for families of Deaf and Hearing Impaired Children and young Adults. The Helpline number is 1800 645 916. DCA has begun providing advocacy and information services across Australia via the national Helpline.

www.deafchildreinaustralia.org.au

Parent Council of Deaf Education

PCDE statement: Our mission is to work with parents and families of deaf children and young people, regardless of their background, to promote their rights in all aspects of their lives from birth to the end of tertiary education.

More information on PCDE can be found at their website www.pcde.org

The National Deaf Children's Society

www.ndcs.org.uk

Listen Up

<http://listen-up.org>

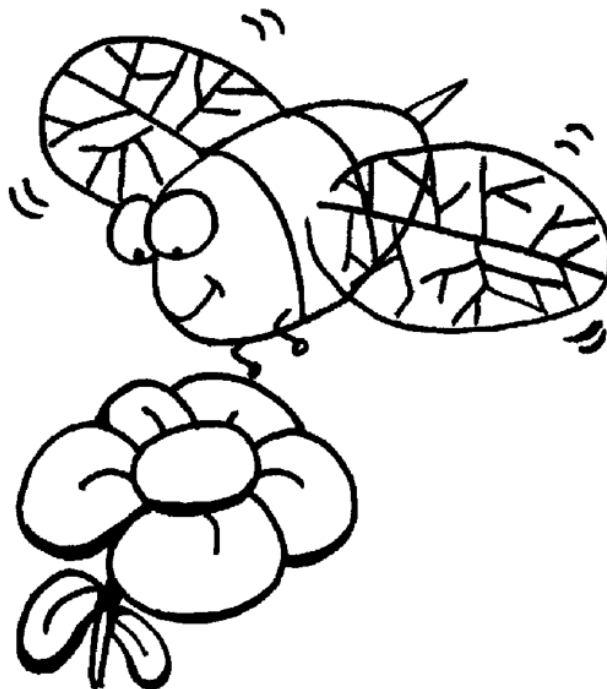
CDCA Member Profile

Hello, my name is Kerrie Kent (nee Ebner) and my husband Matt and I have two young children, James (4) and Rose (2), who both have a moderate bilateral sensorineural hearing loss. James' hearing loss was detected when he was two years of age and Rose's hearing loss was diagnosed at her newborn hearing screen. When Rose was diagnosed, James was retested and we discovered that he had a similar hearing loss.

James took to his hearing aids like a duck to water: He could hear things that he had never heard before - such as the spray can dad was using out the back which caused him to run inside with apprehension the first time he heard the noise! Rose has been wearing her hearing aids since she was four months of age. It took her a little longer to get used to wearing her aids and she now insists on wearing them all waking hours until she falls asleep.

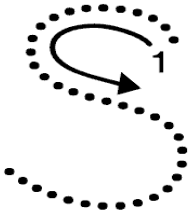
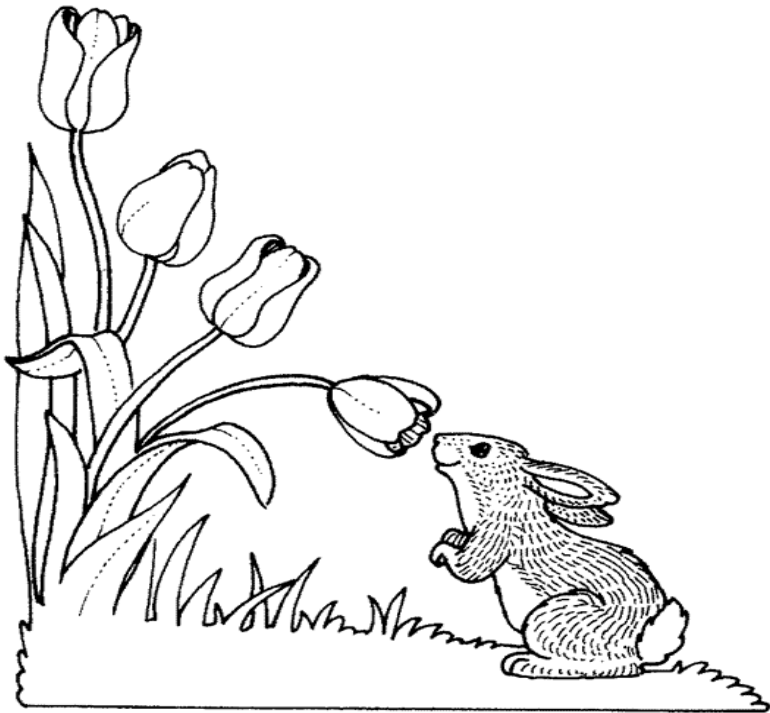
Life is certainly more eventful raising children with a hearing loss. Their hearing aids need cleaning and maintaining. James and Rose attend weekly speech and hearing classes at The Shepherd Centre and they have regular at-home visits by an itinerant teacher from the Department of Education and Training. They go to Australian Hearing for new mould fittings, hearing tests and equipment upgrades and are monitored by an Ears, Nose and Throat Specialist. The children's progress can be attributed to the excellent support we have received from all these specialists.

We are now participating in groups and meeting a wide array of people dealing with hearing loss. The CDCA is an avenue of knowledge on current issues affecting the hearing impaired community and an effective means for all members to keep in touch. I believe my continuing membership of the CDCA will ensure my family receives invaluable support now and into the future - especially after James and Rose start school, and are no longer attending the constructive weekly playgroup sessions held at The Shepherd Centre.

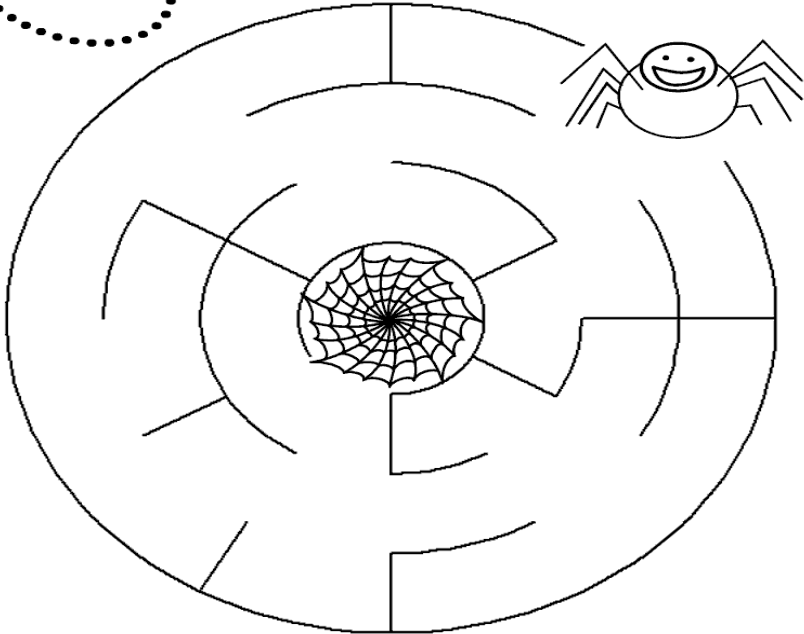


CDCA Kids Page

Some of you may have been to Floriade. Did you see any rabbits?



S is for spider



© www.first-school.ws Early Pre-K

Educator I parent: Read these instructions to child. Trace letter S with your finger. Connect the dots with black pencil or crayon. Help the spider reach her web. Count the legs on the spider.

CDCA Membership 2008/2009

The membership contribution is \$20.00 and is for the financial year ending 30 June 2009. Membership is available to parents, relatives, professionals and friends. Financial members receive a monthly newsletter and are eligible to borrow the Association's video camera, captioned videos, toys, resources, games, books etc. Your contributions enable us to buy new resources for the library and assist in the running of the Association. Please make cheque payable to *Canberra Deaf Children's Association* and mail to:

**The Treasurer
Canberra Deaf Children's Association
PO Box 2291
Tuggeranong ACT 2901**

Please complete the following form and return with your payment so we can maintain up to date details.

Parent's/Carer's Name:			
Address:			
Email:			
Home Phone:		Work Phone:	
Mobile:		Fax:	

Please include all children in the family.

Child's Name	Date of Birth	Hearing Loss