

#### The June Missile is here!

Well, another month has flown by, & again we have a lot to cover in this little missile. Many of you have been doing exciting things out there in the field, & we love to share what we can so that you can be encouraged as we are.

The first exciting bit of news is that **Veronica Steer's** new article,

**'Developmental Learning Steps'**, is now available to read on our website!! Click <u>here</u> to share some of Veronica's exciting insights.

Also, Two New Seminars Are Being Offered.

- Mary Mountstephen MS (SEN) will be running a seminar for teachers, therapists & support staff at Millfield Preparatory School, Glastonbury, Somerset, England on Tuesday, July 14, 2009, 9am-5pm!!! For further information & contact details, click <a href="here">here</a>.
- Adele Suda is planning a visit to Sydney towards the end of September, 2009, around the 21st or 22nd, & has graciously offered to run a seminar here if there is enough interest.

Adele has extensive experience in Sensory Integration & working with Sensory Processing Disorder. She is an Occupational Therapist, & in her clinic in Queensland she provides assessment & treatment for children aged 0 - 18 years for all disabilities & developmental delays. She specialises in fine & gross motor skills, learning difficulties, handwriting & movement programs to increase muscle tone, co-ordination & balance.

She has run regular seminars for teachers, covering all aspects of learning difficulties & how to help kids in the classroom, & of course all the MtL movements, & we have had several requests for a 'local' seminar, so I'm sure people will be rushing to take advantage of this special opportunity to soak in some of Adele's vast experience.

To secure your place, please contact Adele directly at delsuda@hotmail.com.

# 'Brain Gym International 'Teaching Through Movement Award' for 2008

We'd like to congratulate Sami Mowbray for winning this award, & share with you all a letter she wrote us.

Dear Stacey, Barbara, Jini & team,

Hi all, thought I'd drop you a quick email & fill you in with all the exciting progress from up here in the Coffs Harbour area.

Well, firstly I have won the 'Brain Gym International - 'Teaching Through Movement Award' for 2008. The only Australian to receive the award!! There is a write up in the November 2008 issue of Brain Gym Journal, mentioning of course Move to Learn. This has opened a few doors for me & Move to Learn in the area.

I now run Baby, Toddler & Preschool Move to Learn classes at Sawtell Public School. The Baby Move to Learn classes are full !! With the toddlers & Preschool Move to Learn classes also being very popular. The mum's/dad's do the classes with me, they hold their childs limbs & cross pattern to nursery rhymes. We do stomach glides like 'super man' or bubs glide across mum's/dad's lap or being held up high on mum's feet while she lies on the ground. I have tunnels, wedges, foam stairs to encourage crawling. I use mini maraca's to cross pattern & shake out a tune. A parachute to roll on like the sea. It is hilarious & the parents enjoy it as much as the littlies. I have the school aged kids from Sawtell Public watching from outside the hall, with their smiles stuck to the glass. It is just joyous to be amongst!! Our local newspaper 'The Advocate' did a little write up in last Tuesday's paper.

I am still running Move to Learn classes for the students at Sawtell Public School 3 mornings a week (4 years now), but now the students include all from kindergarten to year 6. I do alternate weeks with the classes & it is still very much loved by students, teachers, parents & myself.

So, Move to Learn is certainly moving along beautifully up here. Hope all is well with you,

Sami













## Resources For Teachers Wanting To Do Visual Work In The Classroom

ACBO (the Australasian College of Behavioural Optometrists) has some publications to help!

1) ACBO - 'Improving Vision Skills in a School Setting' &

2) Regina RICHARDS - 'Classroom Visual Activities'

These have been recommended by Helen Berriman (Berri), Visual Therapist, so they'd be well worth purchasing. An assessment by a Behavioural Optometrist is always preferable (& mandatory for focusing issues) but some tracking & convergence work can certainly be done by teachers.

Both are available from www.acbo.org.au

## **Gems From The Fiji Seminar**



Helen Thomson & Denise Jeram with some of our beautiful Fijian hosts

Once again, we'd like to introduce you to some of the participants in the Fijian Seminar & share with you a little of what they are doing. This month we have something from Helen Thomson & Denise Jaram in Canberra. Helen is our contact in Canberra, & she is available to provide information & in-servicing to teachers, childcare workers, etc on the Move to Learn program. You can find out more about her on our website www.movetolearn.com.au. Both of these amazing women are doing wonderful things with the Move to Learn program in Canberra & we are delighted to introduce them to you.

#### Hello from Canberra.....

We came back from Fiji last year feeling so inspired. Not only had we had the opportunity to work with Barbara but also the other conference participants who all had so much to share. We learnt so much from each & every one of them. Everything from yoga to Veronica's hands on approach, to brain development, to music with children, to parents' own rejoices with MTL, to visual therapy & to the INPP's work in the UK. There were so many amazing people brought together who shared the same passion. We were also very humbled by the Fijian teachers who do an absolutely amazing job in conditions very different to our own.

On returning to Australia (with the best Fijian made mat you could imagine!) we resolved to get Move to Learn (MtL) out there.

We started by sharing our knowledge with a small group of enthusiastic teachers who already met together to share their experiences with the MtL, as well as other issues regarding children's development & learning.

In-servicing staff in a number of schools in Canberra followed, including our own. These schools have taken the MtL on & are running it with their classes.

After hearing about the Listening Program from Veronica in Fiji, we undertook the Integrated Listening Systems practitioner training towards the end of last year. We ran a trial with it at our own school & Denise is now using it alongside the MtL exercises.

Having moved schools this year Helen is now working in an Early Childhood setting (childcare to Year 2). The Kindergarten, Year 1 & 2 children do MtL every day. Parent information sessions have provided an outline of MtL & much interest has been generated. Teachers have visited the school specifically to see it in operation.

In a couple of weeks we will be running a workshop in another Primary school in Canberra. We are finding now that our work is getting out there - we have people contacting us now, so we will soldier on in small steps.

Helen & Denise

### **Assessment/Treatment Tip From Barbara**

#### PEASE PORRIDGE HOT

This is probably my favourite assessment tool because it is so much fun, no one realises they are being assessed & it is fixing the immaturities of the neurological system at the same time. We had a huge amount of fun with it in the school in Suva where I helped out in the last two years. As you walked around the school you could hear Pease Porridge coming from one classroom after another, & as you peeked in, it was easy to spot those with unintegrated brains (poor rhythm, missing the hand clapping, confused but having as much fun as everyone else.)

Partners stand opposite each other, far enough apart to be able to clap hands. Have the partners repeat the verse below together as they do the hand actions.

PEASE (Clap own thighs) PORRIDGE (Clap own hands) HOT (Clap partner's right hand with your right hand)

PEASE (Clap own thighs) PORRIDGE (Clap own hands) COLD (Clap partner's left hand with your left hand)

PEASE (Clap own thighs) PORRIDGE (Clap own hands)

IN (right hands) THE POT (left hands)

NINE (Clap own thighs) DAYS (clap own hands)

OLD (Clap left with right & right with left at the same time)

Repeat the second verse as above

Some like it hot

Some like it cold

Some like it in the pot

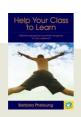
Nine days old

Have fun!

#### Until next month, keep on rolling!

## From The Move to Learn Team Barbara, Jini, Stacey, Rick & Nikki & Manny

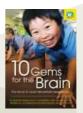




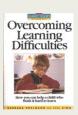












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