

SUPPORTING INCLUSIVE PRACTICE



Everything you need to create rich, soothing and inclusive spaces to suit the needs of every child.



ALL PRODUCTS DESIGNED AND DEVELOPED BY TTS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [TTS-DISTRIBUTOR.COM](https://www.tts-distributor.com)



Welcome

At TTS, we're committed to providing the very best industry-leading resources, expertly designed and selected to support every child, whatever their need. From our innovative TTS Developed resources, to our range of essentials, you'll find everything you need to provide rich sensory spaces to create a love for learning and to support the wellbeing of every child.



TTS work in collaboration with the National Association for Special Educational Needs (nasen), a charitable membership organisation that exist to support and champion those working with, and for, children and young people with SEND and learning difficulties, around the globe.

WORKING WITH EXPERTS

We're proud to work with some of the best experts in the industry! Our partners and in-house colleagues spend so much of their time understanding what educators need and helping us develop meaningful resources that nurture a lifelong love of learning.



MARK LOVEDAY
HEAD OF SERVICE AT CHADSGROVE SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICE

Mark is the Head of Service at Chadsgrove School Support Service, a specialist teaching and inclusion advisory service. The service provides specialist teaching and therapy services, including SpLD diagnostic pathways.



RUTH LUE-QUEE
FOUNDER OF MY MUMMY TEACHER, EDUCATION AND INCLUSION EXPERT

Ruth runs My Mummy Teacher, which empowers parents and professionals to help their children learn through play and has also worked in many aspects of Special Educational Needs, including mainstream and additional resources provision settings.



ANDREW WHITEHOUSE
SPECIALIST IN NEUROLOGICAL DIVERSITY

TEDxSpeaker and Bamford Lecturer, Andrew Whitehouse is a specialist in neurological diversity and provides interventions for young professionals, parents and young people with Autism, ADHD, PDA, Dyslexia and related conditions as well as behavioural interventions.



MICHELLE REID
IN-HOUSE EDUCATIONALIST AND EARLY YEARS CONTENT EDITOR

With over 20 years' experience in education, Michelle has worked in a variety of roles ranging from an Early Years Practitioner to working alongside Local Authority to improve schools practice.



CATHERINE JEWKES
IN-HOUSE EXPERT AND HEAD OF CURRICULUM AND PRODUCT CONTENT

Before joining TTS, Catherine worked as an Primary School Teacher, teaching from Nursery up to Year 6. Catherine developed her expertise in SEND through working as a SENCo for 4 years and then alongside the Local Authority, developing and implementing special educational needs provision for over 70 schools for 7 years.

SEND and Inclusive Learning Environments



With the right support, environment and resources, we can help every child, including those with special educational needs, to reach their full potential and be ready and able to learn.

From resources for self-regulation and calming to those for organisation, concentration and meeting sensory needs, our innovative resources help educators to create inclusive environments where learning is accessible for all.

We are also proud to partner with the experts from the National Association for Special Educational Needs (nasen), with several of our resources being assured by their Quality Framework Programme.



1 TTS MINI POP-UP SENSORY POD WHITE
SS47605

Our sensory projection pod provides an alternative environment to a sensory room. The den opens effortlessly with its sprung tension, removing the requirement for poles or ties, making setup quick and straightforward. H1 x W1 x D1m
Suitable for age 10 months and up



2

2 TTS POP-UP SENSORY SPACE WHITE
SD10060

A versatile and portable pop up sensory tent, perfect for creating a calming environment. Constructed from durable, fire-retardant material, this sensory space is wheelchair accessible and sets up in seconds. H142 x W142 x D142cm.
Suitable for age 10 months and up



3

3 TTS MINI POP-UP SENSORY POD BLACK
SD10393

A calming portable sensory space for children, easily set up anywhere. This sensory den is designed as a safe space for children overwhelmed by sensory input. It offers a calming area for relaxation and sensory exploration. H1 x W1 x L1m
Suitable for age 10 months and up



4

4 TTS POP-UP SENSORY SPACE BLACK
SD10015

A versatile and portable pop up sensory tent, perfect for creating a calming environment. Constructed from durable, fire-retardant material, this sensory space is wheelchair accessible and sets up in seconds. H142 x W142 x D142cm.
Suitable for age 10 months and up





1 TTS FIBRE OPTICS AND LIGHT SOURCE BUNDLE
SD10631

Combine sensory lighting fibre optic tails with a light source to enable a serene environment. The spray of acrylic fibres changes colour continuously, offering visual stimulation, particularly beneficial for partially sighted children. These safe-to-touch fibre tails, devoid of electricity, enhance sensory environments and facilitate supervised interactive learning.



2 TTS RECHARGEABLE SENSORY HURRICANE TUBE
SD10375

A waterless sensory hurricane tube that mimics the benefits of bubble tubes without the upkeep. An adjustable speed fan in this sensory tube propels light beads up and down, creating a captivating visual effect. Suitable for age 3 years and up



3 TTS GIANT SENSORY LIGHT UP GLOW CYLINDER TUBE
EY07243

This giant light-up tube introduces a magical atmosphere, adding a sense of awe and wonder. Offers a soft glow for sensory exploration. Children can discover new colours through acetate, enhancing mood and relaxation. Suitable for age 3 years and up



4 TTS RECHARGEABLE FIBRE OPTIC SPARKLE RUG

A rechargeable fibre optic sparkle rug that transforms sensory rooms with luminous, touch-activated skies. Activated by touch, this rug lights up to create a captivating play area, encouraging movement and interaction.
SD10518 W100 x L100cm
SD10372 W140 x L140cm
SD10395 W200 x L200cm



5 TTS GLOW IN THE DARK CUSHIONS 2PK
SD10359BK

Ideal for sensory spaces, reading areas or play areas, these cushions provide comfort and visually engage with glow-in-the-dark designs. Suitable for age 3 years and up



6 TTS GLOW IN THE DARK BEAN BAG
SD10358BK

This glow-in-the-dark bean bag provides relaxation and reading experiences. Suitable for age 3 years and up



7 TTS GLOW IN THE DARK COMFORT BLANKET
SD10155

A plush blanket, perfect for calming or relaxing children, with a soft, comforting feel. Suitable for age 4 years and up



8 TTS LIGHT UP CUSHIONS 2PK

Perfect for creating a calming, relaxing environment in sensory spaces with soothing light. Suitable for age 6 months and up
SD10088 Square
SD10087 Bolster





1 TTS LIGHT UP TACTILE GLOW SPHERES 6PK
EY10974 USA

A set of six rechargeable spheres, ideal for sensory exploration and motor skills enhancement. These spheres transform learning into a vibrant sensory experience as they illuminate on touch, designed to introduce children to cause and effect concepts. They support curriculum goals by providing a sensory stimulus that fascinates and draws in young learners.
Suitable for age 10 months and up



2 TTS GLOW ROLLERS 6PK
EY11967 USA

Explore sensory play with six illuminated rollers that are designed to engage and educate. Designed to captivate children's attention, these illuminated rollers use vibrant lights and movement to enhance sensory and visual development. They allow exploration of cause and effect, encouraging children to observe how their actions, like rolling or shaking, change the light patterns.
Suitable for age 10 months and up



3 TTS SENSORY STACKING GLOW AND TEXTURE DISCS 5PK
EY11965 USA

Enhance construction play with light-up rechargeable discs for improved sensory experiences. Shake to light, these textured discs engage children in cause-and-effect play, enhancing sensory learning.
Suitable for age 10 months and up

4 RAINBOW GLOW ARCHES 7PCS
EL45134 USA

A set of seven stackable, illuminating arches with vibrant light options for diverse play. These arches can support children's early understanding of technology through cause and effect whilst offering visual and tactile appeal through the wonders of light.
Suitable for age 10 months and up



5 GLOW PEOPLE 6PK
EL46409 USA

A vibrant collection of characters for imaginative exploration and introduction to early technology. Explore narrative development with this set of glowing, light up interactive characters designed for engaging small world play.
Suitable for age 10 months and up



6 TTS SENSORY ICT GLOW CONSTRUCTION BLOCKS 12PK
EY06793

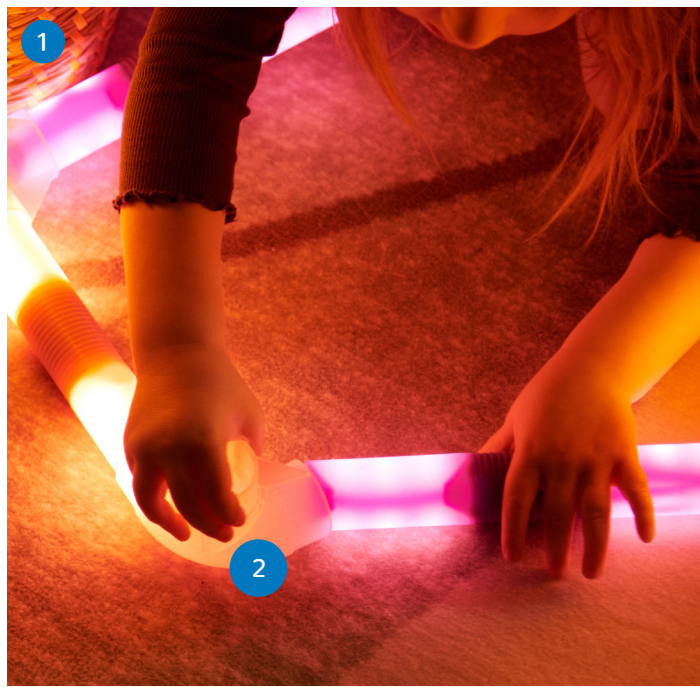
Add a sense of awe and wonder to construction play with captivating sensory glow cubes. Featuring twelve cubes in two sizes, children will be delighted by the changing colours as they manipulate these fascinating blocks during construction play.
Suitable from birth



7 TTS GLOW PEBBLES 12PK
EY11966 USA

A set of 12 illuminated, rechargeable pebbles designed for sensory stacking and rolling play. Available in three sizes, these pebbles offer static or sequence modes, charging via cables. Enhances sensory exploration and play.
Suitable for age 10 months and up





1 TTS LIGHT UP GLOW CYLINDERS 12PK
EY11108 USA

—
Explore cause and effect through sensory light and colour with this engaging and versatile set. Suitable for age 10 months and up

2 TTS LIGHT UP GLOW CYLINDER CONNECTORS 18PK
EL46672 USA

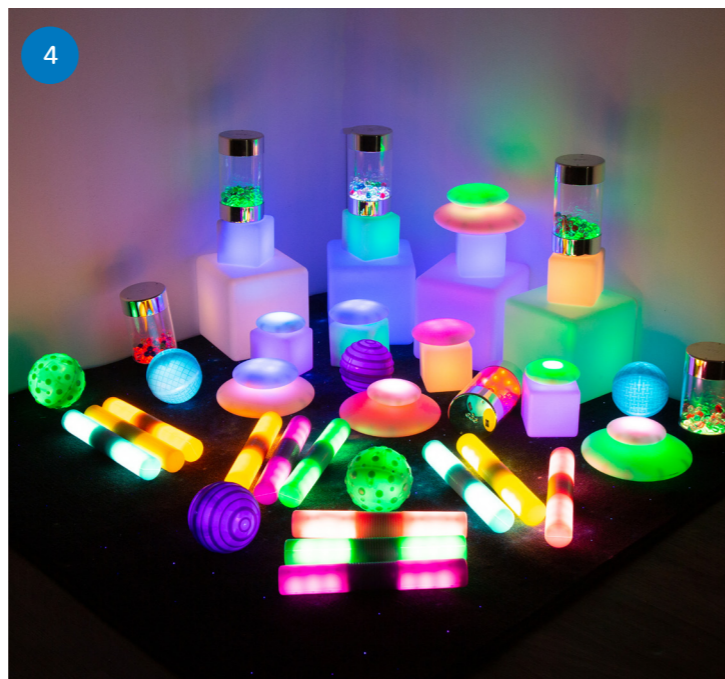
—
A collection of connectors to combine with glow cylinders to light up loose parts exploration. Suitable for age 10 months and up

3 TTS LIGHT UP GLOW CYLINDERS & CONNECTORS BUNDLE
EL46706

—
Connectors and glowing light up cylinders that engage children in construction and loose parts play. Suitable for age 10 months and up

4 SENSORY LIGHT UP GLOW COLLECTION 48PCS
SS45555

—
A captivating light-up collection for sensory spaces, designed to stimulate and calm. Suitable for age 3 years and up



5 TTS GLOW CROSSES 12PK USA

—
Unique, glowing crosses that stack, nestle, and tessellate, offering versatile construction play possibilities. Colourful manipulatives that delight and challenge, bringing a unique aspect to construction and loose parts play. Suitable for age 10 months and up
EL45136 Small
EL45131 Large

7 TTS LIGHT UP COLLECTOR'S BUCKET USA

—
Get ready to glow on the go with these engaging, rechargeable illuminated waterproof buckets. Explore the functionalities of this light-up bucket, ideal for both indoor and outdoor educational settings. Suitable for age 10 months and up
EY11868 Single
EY12251 2pk
EY11705 4pk

6 TTS GLOW ARCHES 12PK USA
EL11340

—
A collection of unique, glowing arches that stack and tessellate together, offering versatile and engaging explorative possibilities. These holed arches can engage children with developmentally appropriate light up technology where they can explore cause and effect through the wonders of light. Suitable for age 10 months and up

8 TTS LIGHT UP GLOW CONSTRUCTION BRICKS 12PK
EY10970

—
Illuminate block play with this innovative set of twelve rechargeable, sturdy light up construction bricks. Suitable for age 10 months and up



1 TTS GIANT LIGHT AND SOUND SPINNING TOP
EY11701

A modern classic, this rechargeable spinning top develops motor skills and enhances sensory play. This spinning top is an engaging, multi-sensory resource for solo or group play. Children will discover features that encourage interaction and sensory play, such as its ability to rock, spin, light up, and produce sounds, facilitating immersive learning experiences. Suitable for age 18 months and up



2 TTS SWITCH AND PRESS FINE MOTOR BOARD
EY10565 USA

A board merging ICT with essential fine motor skills through engaging interactive features. Features interactive elements such as pressing, switching, and sliding to illuminate lights, captivating children while they learn. Suitable for age 10 months and up



3 TTS LIGHT UP TWIST AND TURN SPINNING TOPS 3PK
EY10972 USA

A rechargeable set of three light-up spinning tops that captivate and educate. Engage children with these unique ICT resources that spark curiosity and develop key motor skills through creative play. Suitable for 10 months to 5 years



4 TTS EARLY YEARS IMMERSIVE PROJECTOR
EY11864 USA

Transform the everyday into the extraordinary with this awe-inspiring, rechargeable projector. Concepts, and enriches storytelling, supporting unlimited educational possibilities. Suitable for age 10 months and up



5 TTS SHADOW CUBE
EY11847

Combine these sturdy cylinders to create shapes for construction activities and shadow play. Versatile connectors and tubes create frames and shapes for immersive projects with patterns and shadows. Suitable for age 3 years and up

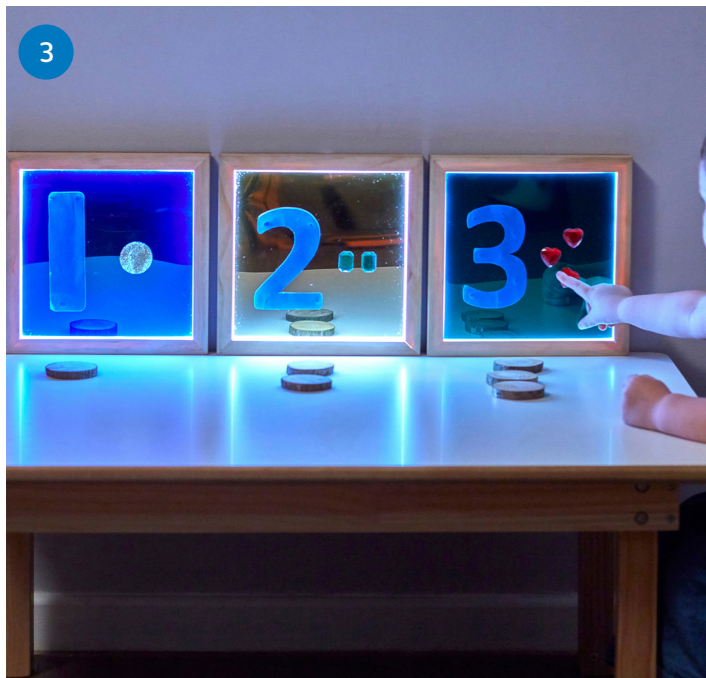


6 COLOUR CHANGING EASI-TORCH
SN45190 USA

Colour changing, rechargeable, handheld LED torches, complete with charging hub. New and improved, the torches include a colour changing feature, enabling them to be easily switched between white, red, green and blue lights as well as featuring LEDs that maintain brightness for up to 3.5 hours.



NEW



1 TTS LIGHT UP RECTANGLE MIRROR
W60 X L80CM
EY11030

—
An engaging, illuminated mirror that expands sensory learning and exploration in children.

3 TTS LIGHT UP SQUARE HAND MIRRORS 3PK
EY11031 USA

—
Illuminate your space with three light up acrylic mirrors that enhance sensory play and emotional growth.
Suitable for age 3 years and up



2 TTS LIGHT UP INFINITY MIRROR
EY11032 USA

—
Explore endless light reflections with our wall-mounted infinity mirror, a sensory journey.

4 TTS LIGHT UP RECORDABLE DOMES 4PK
EL11346 USA

—
Set of 4 domes with press to light, colour changing and sound recording.
Suitable for age 10 months and up

5 TTS LIGHT UP COLOUR CHANGING GLOW TABLE H56CM
EY07231

—
Enhance sensory learning with this engaging, glowing table, designed to captivate young learners. Suitable for multiple children, they can explore objects and materials together as they stand or sit by this engaging table.

6 TTS LIGHT UP SENSORY MOOD PEBBLES

—
These lights can be placed in a sensory room or den enhancing learning spaces with this functional, aesthetically pleasing mood light. Use the remote control to select a specific colour or to fade smoothly through a spectrum of shades, providing sensory experiences.

- SD12578 Pebbles
- SD12576 Sphere
- SD12579 Floor Panel
- SD10068 Complete Set

7 SENSORY COLOUR CHANGING LIGHT UP CUBE
EY07230

—
A robust, lightweight cube doubling as a mood light and versatile furniture in sensory spaces. This cube illuminates to provide soft mood lighting, thereby creating a calming atmosphere ideal for sensory play and relaxation.
Suitable for age 3 years and up

8 TTS LIGHT UP LANTERNS USA

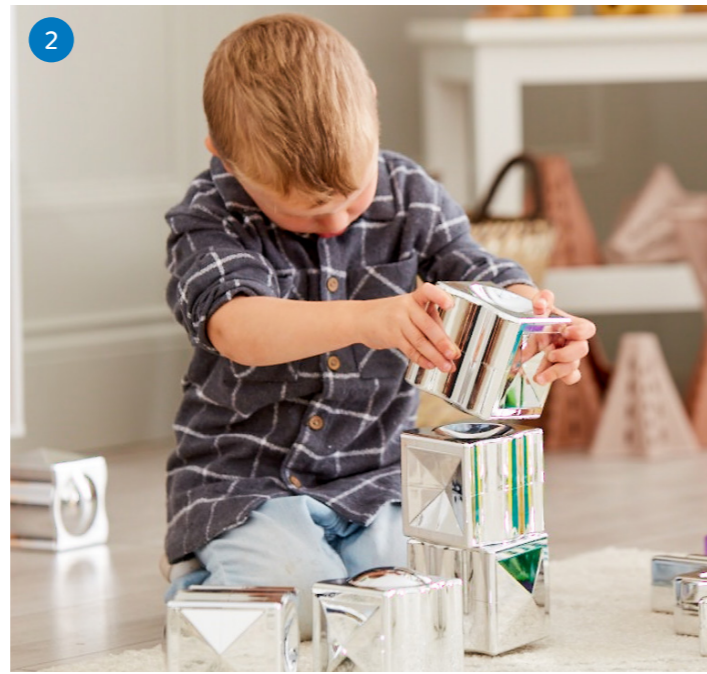
—
Our rechargeable Light up Lanterns enchant children's surroundings in sensory or play spaces. The sleek and lightweight design makes the lanterns easy to carry, hang, or place anywhere you need to use it.
Suitable for age 10 months and up
SS46613 Single
SS46614 2pk
SS46615 4pk





1 TTS SUPER SHINY SILVER SENSORY BALLS 4PK
EY06325

—
Four shiny, reflective sensory balls with a mirrored surface, designed for tactile and visual stimulation. Suitable from birth



2 TTS METALLIC DISTORTING CUBES 12PK
EY11992

—
Explore sensory learning with Metallic Distorting Cubes, ideal for visual and tactile stimulation. Suitable for age 10 months and up



3 TTS METALLIC ASSORTED MINI BLOCKS

—
Engage young minds with creative, metallic mini blocks designed for hands-on early learning. Suitable from birth
EY12236 16pk
EY07486 32pk

SENSORY EXPLORATION

Our senses are the way that we receive information from the world around us. We use them to explore, to communicate and to regulate our emotions. Through exploration and manipulation, the brain receives a huge amount of sensory input. So, offering children a range of resources that stimulate, calm and engage the senses in different ways is really important. From constructing with metallics and light up bricks to exploring the sounds and movements of a spinning top, children can be invited into learning or be helped to feel calmer, ready and able to learn.



4 TTS PEBBLE COLLECTION BASKET 34PC
EY10439

—
A soft, large basket filled with assorted textured resources for sensory exploration. Engage children in a sensory journey with this set. Balance, stack, and explore resources of various shapes, textures and appearances. Suitable from birth



5 TTS METALLIC COLLECTION BASKET 16PC
EY10440

—
Explore a shiny trove full of tactile and open-ended possibilities with this sensory basket. Explore shapes, peer into reflective surfaces, and discover new ways to play with this engaging sensory resource. Suitable from birth



6 TTS TEXTURE COLLECTION BASKET 12PC
EY10441

—
A rich collection of textures designed to ignite curiosity and enhance sensory development. Features a variety of colours, materials, and patterns, from velvety textures to crinkly fabrics, encouraging children's sensory exploration. Suitable from birth



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2

1 TTS MAGIC RAINBOW MIRRORS 8PCS
EY05078

—
A multicoloured, sensory mirror set, great for open-ended learning.
Suitable from birth

2 TTS RAINBOW WALL MIRROR GREEN
EY06768

—
Vibrant coloured wall mirrors that can be hung in various ways to create an engaging space.
(More colours available)

3 TTS KALEIDOSCOPE MIRROR
EL47430

—
A faceted mirror collection that offers an intriguing and delightful way to observe the world.

4 TTS MERMAID SEQUIN MOTOR SKILLS FRAMES 3PK
EY10451

—
Explore sensory play and fine motor skills with wooden frames featuring enchanting sequin fabric.
Suitable for age 3 years and up

5 TTS MARK MAKING SEQUIN LONG BOARD AQUA
EY11104 USA

—
Tactile sequin boards that foster fine and gross motor skills development, suitable for children aged three and above.
Suitable for age 3 years and up



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4



5

6 TTS WOODEN SHAKE & RATTLE ROLLERS 6PK
EY05073 USA

—
Beautifully designed wooden shakers to engage and delight babies and young children. Incorporate these versatile shake rattle rollers into a variety of areas such as free play, treasure baskets or music.
Suitable from birth

7 TTS WOODEN BEAD BLOCKS 8PK
EY01139

—
A curated set of wooden blocks, each featuring varied beads great for supporting schematic and creative play. Featuring clear windows for observation, these blocks offer a matching activity that captivates and educates.
Suitable from birth

8 TTS MARVELLOUS MIRROR CONSTRUCTION BLOCKS 25PK
EY03243

—
Enhance early years learning with creative blocks that support cognitive and motor development. This set offers a tactile and visually stimulating experience with various geometric shapes, all housed in a handy wooden tray.
Suitable from birth

9 TTS EXPLORATIVE SENSORY MIRROR TRAY SHAPES 4PK
EY01189

—
A beautiful collection of wooden nesting mirror shapes ideal for exploring reflections and investigating materials. Perfect for sorting and collecting, these mirrored trays offer an engaging design for transient art EYFS and other activities.
Suitable from birth



6



7



8



9



1 TTS CALMING KITTENS AND CALMING CAT REGULATION COLLECTION 19PCS
SS47728

Our Calming Kitten regulation collection can be used to create a calming environment and supports emotional regulation. This regulation-focused collection includes the award winning Calming Cat and much more. Providing children with a toolkit for comfort, regulation, and wellbeing.

Includes: 5 Calming Kittens, 1 Calming Cat, 5 Weighted Lap Pads, 3 Sensory Snuggle Cushions, 5 Calming Cat Breathing Boards
Suitable from birth



2 TTS CALMING KITTEN BREATHING BOARDS 5PK
SS47716

These tonal boards are engraved with designs to support breathing techniques. This collection of boards can be used alongside the Calming Kittens to support children in learning how to refocus and remaining calm.
Suitable from birth

4 SENSORY SNUGGLE CUSHIONS 3PK
SS47721

These Sensory Cuddle Cushions provides a soft comforting experience for children.

3 CHILDREN'S READING CORNER BEANBAGS COLLECTION 6PK
SS47731

Transform any learning environment into a delightful and engaging reading nook or calming space with these bean bags.

Includes: 1 Snuggle Bean Bag, 1 Green Bean Bag, 1 Blue Bean Bag, 1 Purple Bean Bag, 1 Red Bean Bag

5 TTS WEIGHTED LAP PADS 5PK
SS47727

Our weighted lap pads comes in five calming colours to support focus and regulation.



1 TTS WEIGHTED LAP BUDDIES AND BLANKET

Offering deep-pressure sensations, these weighted lap buddies help children with sensory regulation.

Suitable for age 5 years and up

- SD10008 Cat
- SD12677 Beagle
- SD10346 Rabbit
- SD12678 Schnauzer
- SS47340 Buy All & Save



2 TTS LOUIS THE LADYBIRD LAP WEIGHT

A comforting lap weight, designed to provide deep, calming pressure for children requiring sensory support. Crafted in soft, plush material, this lap weight aids children who benefit from sensory input, promoting stillness and concentration.

- SD12056 1.36kg
- SD12009 2.27kg



3 TTS BREATHING & MINDFULNESS BOARDS 6PK SS45027

Engraved wooden boards designed to help children practise breathing techniques through six designs. To aid emotional regulation and mindfulness, children can trace patterns, helping them inhale and exhale calmly and steadily.

Suitable from birth



4 TTS INDOOR CALMING AND STUDY CUBBIE SS48426

Cosy enclosed seat providing a calm and quiet space. With its sound absorbing walls and roof, the Cubbie reduces noise from the surrounding environment, ideal for providing a quiet space to concentrate or study, or to take a break from overwhelming environments.

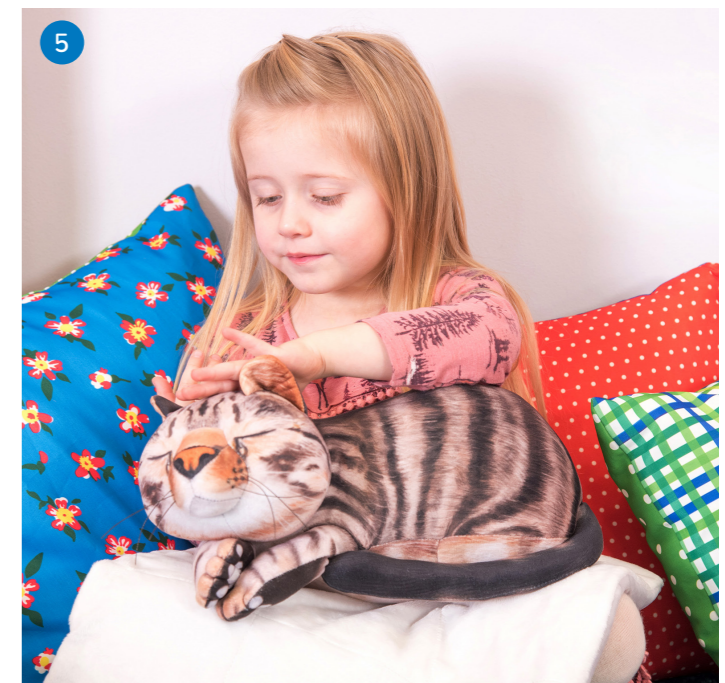


5 TTS VIBRATING WEIGHTED LAP BUDDY

A calming weighted lap buddy that utilises gentle vibration for soothing, tactile sensory support.

Suitable for age 3 years and up

- SS45281 Guinea Pig
- SD10366 Cat



6 TTS VIBRATING SNUGGLE CUSHION SD10083

A cushion that vibrates offering tactile stimulus as a therapeutic tool, suited for children with sensory sensitivities.

Suitable for age 3 years and up



7 ANTIMICROBIAL VIBRATING CUSHION

Our vibrating cushions can be used for children's sensory and tactile input and are a comfortable and convenient way to provide soothing, regulating and calming effects.

Suitable for age 3 years and up

- SD10634 Square
- SS46635 Star

USA

- SS46634 Heart

USA

- SS46636 Support

USA

- SS46637 Buy All & Save



1 TTS TEXTURED CALMING WEIGHTED BLANKET

Introducing calm, relaxation and a great big hug, all wrapped up in these textured weighted blankets. This weighted blanket helps to relax the nervous system giving the gentle sensation of being hugged which eases anxiety,

- SS47693 1.4kg
- SS47694 2.3kg
- SS47695 3.6kg



2 TTS CALMING WEIGHTED BLANKET

This weighted blanket helps children relax and reduce anxiety with deep pressure stimulation. Designed to mimic the comforting sensation of a hug, this blanket provides sensory seeking children with calming deep pressure input.

- SD12229 1.4kg
- SD12319 2.3kg
- SD12320 3.6kg



3 TTS WEIGHTED HAND FIDGETS 3PK SD12679

Enhance calm and focus in children with TTS Weighted Hand Fidgets, designed for sensory support. Encased in soft velour and filled with compressible PVC grains, these fidgets aid in stress relief and enhance children's focus. Suitable for age 4 years and up



4 TTS WEIGHTED PALM BUDDIES 2PK SD12630

Heavy and soft, these weighted palm buddies offer a calming and grounding effect when held. Ideal for carpet time, assembly, story listening, or focusing on instructions, enhancing calmness and concentration. Suitable for age 5 years and up

5 TTS WEIGHTED NECK AND SHOULDER PAD SD12635

Reduce anxiety in children with deep pressure therapy for a sense of calm. This neck pad aids children in managing anxiety effectively by embracing the shoulders and upper back, offering a grounding effect. Suitable for age 3 years and up



6 TTS CALVIN THE CATERPILLAR SHOULDER WEIGHT

This shoulder weight offers deep pressure for children, enhancing focus and relaxation. Made from a soft, plush material, this caterpillar-shaped weight helps children requiring sensory feedback stay seated. SD12010 0.9kg SD12021 1.36kg



7 TTS WEIGHTED WRISTBANDS 2PK SD10332

Discreet, soft weighted wristbands that support body awareness and fine motor skills enhancement. Offering wrist support during handwriting, these wristbands are an effective tool for sensory integration. Suitable for age 5 years and up



8 TTS WEIGHTED SENSORY ANKLE BANDS 2PK SD10001

Enhances muscle strength, stability, and calming sensations for children with sensory needs. These ankle bands enhance sensory awareness and kinesthetic feedback through proprioceptive deep pressure input.





1 TTS CALMING CAT WORRY TOY
SD10362

Engaging and soft, the tactile cat with sensory materials facilitates emotional conversations and acts as a comforting worry aid. The Calming Cat offers comfort with its soft fur and weighted design, ideal for soothing and engaging children. Suitable for age 3 years and up



2 DOUBLE SIDED SELF PORTRAIT MIRROR H13 X W22 X L29CM
SD09326

Encourage young children to learn all about themselves and visualise their speech by watching their mouths move when making sounds. Suitable for age 4 years and up



3 TTS EMOTION FACES BEAN BAGS 8PK
PS10054

A versatile resource that supports emotional development and coordination through playful learning. Suitable for age 3 years and up



4 TTS EMOTION FACES THROW DOWN SPOTS 16PK
PS10055

A set of sixteen silicone spots that help children effectively understand and express emotions. Suitable for age 3 years and up



5 TTS MARK MAKING SEQUIN AND MIRROR DAISY FRAMES

Explore sensory play with sequin and mirror daisy frames, enhancing discovery and motor skills. Suitable for age 3 years and up

EY11067	Red	USA
EY11068	Yellow	USA
EY11069	Blue	USA
EY11070	Buy All & Save	



6 TTS MARK MAKING SEQUIN BUTTERFLIES AND DRAGONFLIES 4PK
EY11364 USA

Enrich your learning environment with engaging sequin boards for sensory play, fostering key developmental skills. Suitable for age 3 years and up

8 TTS MARK MAKING SEQUIN GIANT DINOSAURS 3PK
EY11049 USA

Spark curiosity and enhance motor skills with tactile, sparkly sequin dinosaurs. Suitable for age 3 years and up

9 TTS MARK MAKING SEQUIN STRIPE BOARD
EY11006 USA

Engage children in a colourful mark-making journey, revealing vibrant sequin colours beneath. Suitable for age 3 years and up



1 TTS CLASSROOM FIDGET STARTER 19PK SD10517

A collection of fidget resources, offering a range of textures and colours. This set includes durable, flexible resources designed for moving, stretching, squeezing, or chewing to support all learners.

Includes: 4 Clear Fidget Chews, 4 Coloured Fidget Chews, 4 Chewable Pendants, 2 Fidgety Bit, 2 Textured Chewable Bangles, 2 Smooth Chewable Bangles, 1 Storage Tin



2 TTS SQUIDGY SPARKLE CIRCLES FIDGET 5PK SD09091

A tactile set of five fidget circles, crafted to enhance sensory and motor skills in children. Perfect for tactile exploration, these squidgy sparkle circles aid fine motor skills development through sensory engagement.

Suitable for age 5 years and up



3 SQUIDGY SPARKLE FISH 6PK SD08045

Great as a fidget toy for children as they can squeeze, bend or press providing tactile input. Explore tactile and visual sensory play with the squidgy fish designed to stimulate hand-eye coordination effectively.

Suitable for age 4 years and up



4 CHEWABLE FIDGET BANGLE

A wearable, discreet, and fun solution for those who need to chew. This bangle serves as a dual-purpose sensory fidget toy, offering both smooth and textured surfaces for tactile exploration.

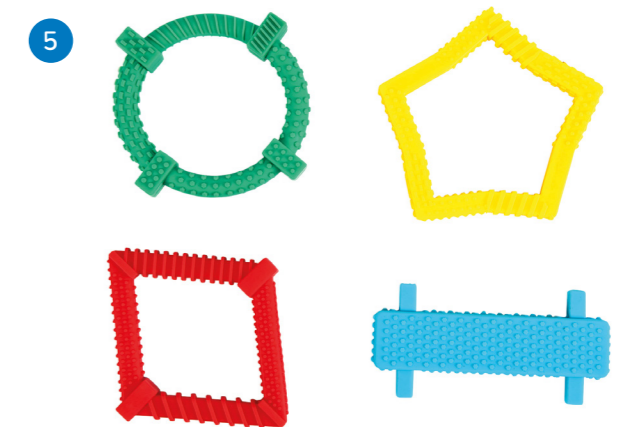
Suitable for age 4 years and up

SD10138 Textured
SD10100 Smooth
SD10345 Buy All & Save

5 TTS CALMING FIDGET CHEWS 4PK SD12067

Perfect for children with sensory needs, offering tactile stimulation for calmness. Easy for children to hold, these sensory chews come with varied textures for extra sensory input and as fidget aids.

Suitable for age 3 years and up



6 TTS SENSORY FIDGET CHEWS 4PK SD10080

These are fun and appropriate alternatives for children who chew on their clothing, pencils, or other objects! Ideal for children seeking oral sensory experiences, these fun shaped chews have textured surfaces for varied sensory interaction.

Suitable for age 3 years and up



7 TTS SENSORY CHEW PENDANTS 4PK SD10363

Our stylish and eye-catching sensory oral chews, provides comfort and calms children requiring sensory input, enabling focus during learning activities. These pendants can be worn around the neck, clipped to clothing, or held by hand, serving as a versatile sensory support tool.

Suitable for age 4 years and up



8 TTS FIDGETY BIT WRIST BAND SD10313

A fashionable wrist band that offers discreet self-regulation for both fidgeting and chewing needs. Featuring a twiddle-able dial for tactile stimulation, this wrist band provides essential sensory feedback.



1



NEW

1 RECORD-A-BOARD

AV48263

Support learning across the curriculum with this double-sided dry wipe recordable board. The whiteboards sit in a recordable unit with four colour coded buttons, each offering a 30 second recording time.

2

**2 CHATTER BOARD PRO**

AV46652 USA

An upgraded version of the popular Chatter Board, which includes a rechargeable battery and headphone socket. Ideal for use across the curriculum and to support SEND and EAL learners. Perfect for 1:1 interventions and busy classrooms with the addition of headphones. 44 dry wipe tiles with a 10 second recording time each.

3

**3 TTS CHATTER BOARDS**

LI10193

Dry wipe recording tiles designed for easy and repeated use in educational settings. Designed to elevate literacy and numeracy skills, this resource features forty-four re-recordable tiles for interactive learning.

Suitable for 5 years and up

4

**4 A3 CHATTER BOARD PRO**

LT47761 USA

Support Oracy with an upgraded A3 Version of our popular resource - Chatter Board. Comes equipped with a rechargeable battery, headphone socket and has customisable 10 second recording tiles to suit a variety of speaking and listening activities across the curriculum.

5

**5 TTS INTERACTIVE RECORDABLE WALL CHART**

IT10003

An interactive classroom wall chart with thirty recordable pockets designed for active learning. Suitable for age 3 years and up

7 TTS SOUND LIGHTS 6PK

LI10001

Illuminate learning with light-up recordable buttons designed to capture children's voices. Suitable for 3 years and up

6

**6 TTS RECORDABLE TALKING PANEL**

EL00153

A multi-use auditory and visual aid, perfect for creating personalised timetables, menus, a favourites board and much more.

Suitable for age 3 years and up

8

**8 TTS BIG-POINT RECORDABLE BUTTON 6PK**

EL00389

Enhances speaking and listening with a record and playback feature of 30 seconds. Suitable for age 3 years and up



1 TTS RECORDABLE TALKING FROGS 10PK
EL46408 USA

Ten delightful, record-able frogs that may be used in water, indoors, outdoors and in messy play, perfect for engaging learning activities with a focus on speaking and listening. Suitable for age 3 years and up



2 TTS RECORDABLE TALKING PEGS 6PK
EY03326

Durable, easy-grip pegs with a twenty second recording function for versatile classroom activities. Features an easy touch button to record and playback messages, complete with lock, record, and play modes for secure usage. Suitable for 3 years and up



3 TTS CHATTER CHUMS MOTION SENSOR BEES 6PK
LI10004

Interactive bees that play back messages, aiding speech development and classroom engagement. Record up to 30-second messages for playback via motion detection, supporting task reinforcement and speech therapy. Suitable for 3 years and up



4 TTS RECHARGEABLE MINI MOBILE PHONES 4PK
EY11835 USA

A set of four tactile, rechargeable miniature mobile phones designed for interactive communication. Features three touch-sensitive buttons, enabling children to initiate calls and learn about technology interaction naturally. Suitable for age 3 years and up

5 CLASSCAST AUDIO BROADCASTING HEADPHONES 6PK
AV48439 USA

Wirelessly transmit audio to multiple headsets. This wireless audio system facilitates engaging group activities by transmitting audio. It includes six rechargeable headsets, each with an eight-hour battery life, and a transmitter with a six-hour battery life. ClassCast can broadcast to up to 30 headsets, allowing for extensive group activities and collaborative learning.



6 TTS EASI-SPEAK 2
IT10100

Your favourite MP3 voice recorder microphone has a refreshed look! Easi-Speak is popular in primary classrooms for its ease of use. Easi-Speak 2, with 128 MB memory, records up to four hours of audio. Suitable for age 3 years and up



7 TTS MINI COMMUNICATION MICROPHONES 5PK
EY07203

Enhance speaking and listening skills with these recordable Mini Microphones. Ideal for building children's confidence, they can record messages up to 40 seconds long and play them back, or explore the same recording with a fun voice changer function. Suitable for age 10 months and up



8 TTS CLEVER TILES 10PK
LI10003

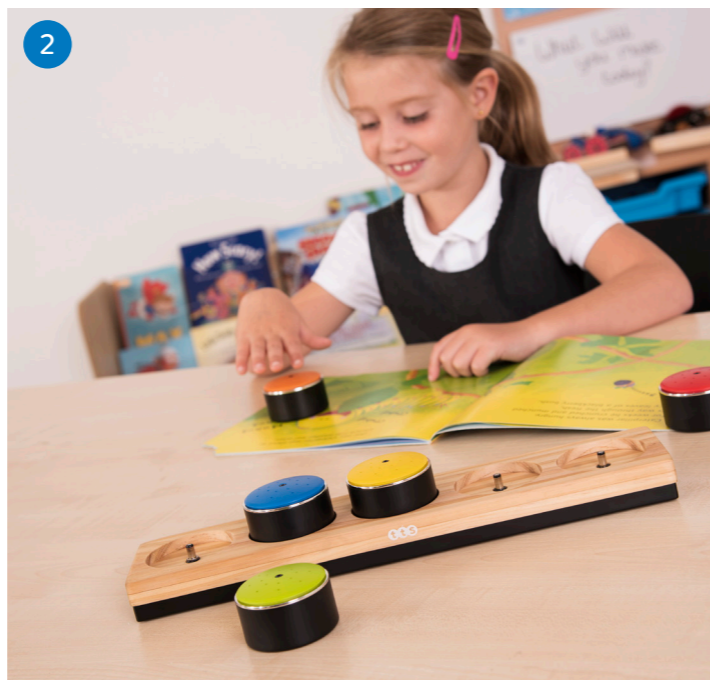
Record, sequence and playback sounds, words or sentences with ease. Enables recording of up to 10 seconds per tile, with capabilities for both individual playback and sequenced soundscapes. Suitable for 5 years and up



1



2



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6



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1 TALKING-POINT RECORDABLE BUTTONS 6PK
EL00511

—
Battery-powered recordable buttons designed for recording and playback of sound.
Suitable for age 10 months and up

3 PREMIUM RECORDABLE TALK-TIME® CARDS 3PK
IT01154

—
High-quality audio recordable cards with a wipeable surface for versatile classroom use.
Suitable for age 3 years and up

2 TTS TALKING-POINT PREMIUM
IT10232

—
A dual-function audio device with space for a 30 second recording. Ideal for varied classroom activities including MFL translations and phonics.
Suitable for age 3 years and up

4 TTS KITT THE LEARNING COMPANION
IT10363

—
Kitt enables learners to work independently, engaging with the device to gather evidence of progress.
Suitable for age 5 years and up

5 INTERACTIVE TALKING MAT
AV46703 USA

—
Place cards, objects, or drawings in 30 pockets, each with a 30 second voice recording capability.

7 TTS A4 TALKING RECORDABLE PHOTO ALBUMS
EL00360

—
Ideal for creating talking time tables, stories or for additional learning support.
Suitable for age 4 years and up

6 A5 TALKING PHOTO ALBUM
EL00359

—
Merge literacy and ICT with this innovative talking book.
Suitable for age 4 years and up

8 TTS RAINBOW RECORDABLE TALKING PHOTO ALBUMS A5 6PK
EL00362

—
A blend of communication, language, literacy development and ICT in one resource.
Suitable for age 5 years and up



1 POP-UP CONCENTRATION DESK BARRIER

Portable pop-up desk barriers designed for child-centric, distraction-minimised learning environments. Suitable for age 5 years and up

- SD11014 Red
- SD12324 Blue
- SD12552 Green
- SD12573 Grey



2 PORTABLE PRIVACY WORKSTATION

SD12008

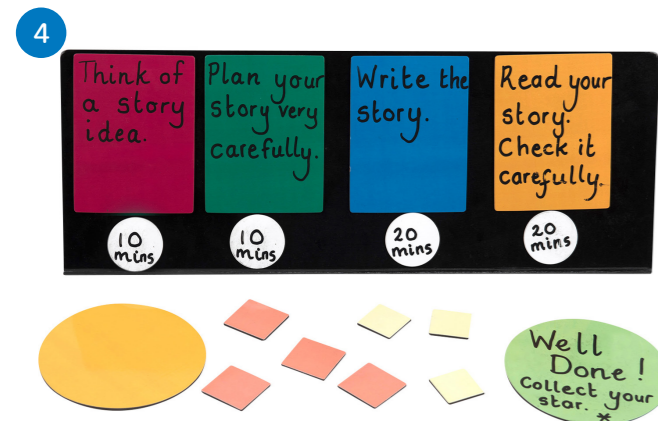
Designed to reduce distractions and boost focus, making daily task management simpler for children. Suitable for age 3 years and up



3 TTS CHILDRENS EAR DEFENDERS

Lightweight, comfortable ear defenders to help children with autism to block out noise and lessen sensory overload. Suitable for age 3 years and up

- SD10198 Red
- SD10349 Blue
- SD10347 Green
- SS47342 Mixed 3pk



4 TTS TASK SLICING TOOL

SD10002

A visual aid designed to simplify tasks into manageable steps with minimal words or imagery.



5 TTS FIDGETY FEET POSTURE AID

SD10004

Encourages children's correct sitting posture, reducing restlessness and promoting focus. Designed for under-desk use, it allows children to move their legs freely, fostering focus without distraction. Suitable for age 3 years and up



6 RECHARGEABLE EASI-TIMER

AV46682 USA

Enhance focus with our easy-to-use rechargeable timer. Suitable for age 3 years and up

7 DISCREET DESKTOP STUDENT COMMUNICATOR

SD08024

A desk-top block designed to help children communicate their feelings and learning needs visually. Suitable for age 5 years and up

1



1 FINE MOTOR SKILLS ACTIVITY BOX
SD07560

Engage children with activities designed to develop essential fine motor skills. This comprehensive kit is a treasure trove of activities to develop fine motor skills for educators aiming to bolster hand-eye coordination, crossing the mid-line, finger and in-hand manipulations, grasps, releases, finger isolation skills, and pencil control. It's an all-in-one solution for fostering independence and functional skills within the classroom environment.

Suitable for age 5 years and up

2



2 HAND STRENGTHENER
FIDGET BALLS 3PK
SD10070

Three silicone fidget balls that can improve grip strength, hand endurance, dexterity, muscular tone and fine and gross motor skills.

Suitable for age 4 years and up

3



3 TTS FINE MOTOR SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT BAG
SD10365

Our bag has been designed to foster fine motor skills through engaging sensory experiences.

Suitable for age 5 years and up

4



4 TTS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TUFF TRAY
TABLE + STAND
FU11680

A height-adjustable Active World Tuff Tray stand designed for wheelchair accessibility now includes a black Tuff Tray.



5 TTS ECO TWEEZERS 10PK
EY11955

Our ergonomically designed Eco Tweezers develop fine motor skills, transfer, sort, and classify.

Suitable for age 10 months and up



6 TTS ECO MOTOR SKILLS UTENSILS 21PK
EL10977

This collection of ergonomically designed tools helps to support children's exploration of fine motor movements.

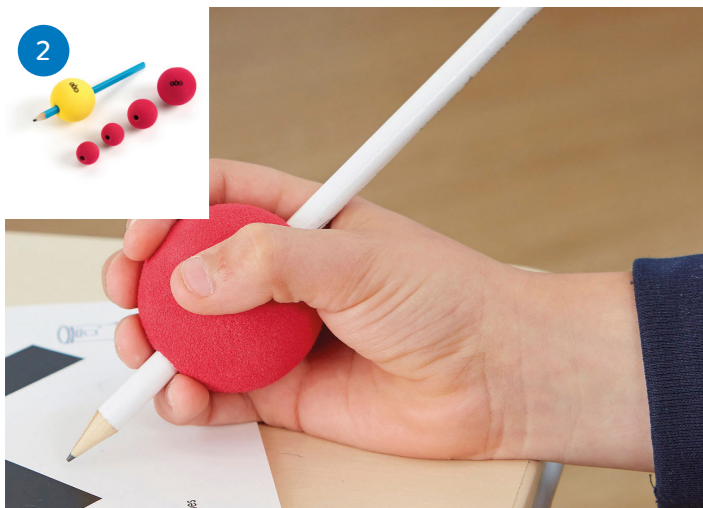
Suitable for age 10 months and up





1 TTS FINE MOTOR SKILLS PRE-WRITING BOARD SET 15PK
SD12339

Develop movement skills for easier letter writing. Encourages left to right movement as children re-create the motions used to form letters, enhancing their writing readiness. Suitable for age 4 years and up



2 TTS DEVELOPMENTAL PENCIL GRIP 5PK
SD12325

Aids in transitioning to the tripod pencil grip for improved handwriting. Designed to support children with coordination difficulties such as dyspraxia in developing fine motor control. Suitable for age 5 years and up



3 GET A GRIP PENCIL GRIPS 33PK
SD08031

Our Get a Grip starter kit features a selection of thirty three different pencil grips.

Includes: 3 Ridged Comfort Grip, 3 Solo Grip, 3 Standard Triangular Grip, 3 Comfort Grip, 3 Spiky Grip, 3 Large Ultra Pencil Grip, 3 Stubbi Grip, 3 Cross Guard Grip, 1 Small Claw Grip, 1 Medium Claw Grip, 1 Large Claw Grip, 3 Metallic Ultra Pencil Grip, 3 Pointer Grip, 6 Pencils
Suitable for age 5 years and up



4 TTS SENSORY ILLUMINATED WRITING BOARD
SD10331 USA

Transform writing practice into an engaging, sensory experience with this illuminated board. Our LED board makes writing and drawing captivating, offering sensory and visual benefits. Suitable for age 3 years and up



5 WRITING SLOPE
SD08034

Enhance children's comfort and posture with the TTS Writing Slope, designed for optimal handwriting. The writing slope prevents children from bending over their desk, and maintains the optimal writing posture, which prevents strain on neck, shoulders and back. Suitable for age 4 years and up



6 FOLDABLE WRITING SLOPE
SD10094

A stylish, lightweight collapsible writing slope for easy transport and storage. A portable writing slope that transforms from a compact form to an angled, stable writing surface, enhancing posture. Suitable for age 4 years and up



7 TTS VISUAL TRACKING READING WINDOWS 10PK
SD10017

Great for children who have problems with visual tracking and need a line finder to help them down a page of text. Ideal for children needing colour differentiation for clearer text up to 14pt, this set includes five distinct colours. Suitable for age 5 years and up





Understanding the eight senses: Supporting every child's sensory needs

by Ali Neal

Why Sensory Processing Matters

Every moment of our lives, our brains are taking in information from our senses — what we see, hear, touch, taste, smell, and how our bodies move and feel inside. This sensory information helps us make sense of the world, stay regulated, and respond appropriately.

For most of us, sensory processing happens automatically. But for many children, especially those who are neurodivergent or have sensory processing differences, these messages can be overwhelming, confusing, or inconsistent. Children tend to either overreact to sensations, they notice and are bothered by everything. Or they underreact, they simply don't notice sensations and this might lead

them to crave more. The result can be anxiety, distraction, meltdowns, or difficulty focusing and engaging in learning.

Understanding how the eight senses work helps adults create environments where children feel safe, calm, and ready to learn - whether in the classroom or at home.

What are the eight senses?

We all know the five classic senses - sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch - but there are three others that play a crucial role in regulation and learning. They are vestibular, proprioception and interoception. I'm going to tell you more about them, one by one and describe the sorts of challenges children might face, and how you can help.

“Understanding how the eight senses work helps adults create environments where children feel safe, calm, & ready to learn”

1. Sight (Visual)

The visual sense helps us interpret what we see - light, colour, shape, movement.

The challenges this can present might be that children may be distracted by bright lights, cluttered displays, or visual overload. Others may miss visual cues and literally not notice what's right in front of their nose. Some may seek out things to see, by staring, flicking fingers or objects in front of their eyes or pulling at their eyes.

Support strategies to help could be to:

- Simplify classroom displays to reduce visual noise.
- Use neutral backgrounds and consistent layouts.
- Offer sunglasses or caps for children sensitive to light.
- Try visual timers to support focus.
- Resources like visual timers, sensory resources, fibre optics, and desk dividers can help children manage visual input and maintain attention.

2. Sound (Auditory)

Our ears are receiving sounds from the environment around us all of the time, even when we are asleep. Our brain sorts through and filters all these sounds and lets us know what to pay attention to and when. Some children can't do this filtering effectively. They may hear all sorts of noises that others can't and find background noise painful or distracting. Others might seek noise to feel grounded and to help them focus. Some might not notice sounds and might not hear their names being called or only hear part of an instruction.

Support strategies to help could be to:

- Use noise-cancelling headphones or ear defenders.
- Sit the child to one side of the class and away from noisy door/window areas.
- Sit the child in front of the teacher so you can get their attention before giving an instruction.
- Create a quiet breakout area for regulation.
- Offer rhythmic or musical movement breaks.



3. Touch (Tactile)

Our tactile system helps us identify texture, pressure, and temperature through the skin. It can present a multitude of challenges. Some children avoid touch (tags, glue, sand), they might even respond badly when touched or accidentally bumped by their peers as their brains interpret it as a 'danger' signal. Others crave touch and seek messy or rough textures or might be touching and fiddling with things constantly.

Support strategies to help could be to:

- Provide fidget tools, textured mats, or sensory trays.
- Use weighted or soft fabrics for comfort.
- Offer choices about messy play and touch-based tasks.
- Resources including fidget collections, sensory paths and weighted blankets or animals.

4. Taste (Gustatory)

Taste helps us identify flavour and safety in food and our ability to taste foods is key to our enjoyment of eating, which links into so many social experiences. Children may be extremely picky eaters and only eat a very limited diet, or they seek intense flavours and even put non-food items in their mouths to taste them.

“Use food play to explore textures & smells safely”

Support strategies to help could be to:

- Respect individual preferences and avoid pressure
- Use food play to explore textures and smells safely
- Offer strong flavours or chewy snacks when appropriate
- Allowing flexible snack times and making reasonable adjustments to school food expectations. Providing a calm eating space can also make a huge difference



5. Smell (Olfactory)

Smell is a very interesting sense because it is closely linked to memory and emotion.

Strong or particular smells (cleaning products, perfumes, lunch halls) may instantly and unconsciously link to a memory and so can cause distress or distraction.

Support strategies to help could be to:

- Use unscented cleaning and art materials
- Offer scented calming tools, like lavender dough or essential oil stones (used carefully and safely)
- Allow children to move away from strong odours when possible
- Try and refrain from any strong smells on your person, perhaps from bathing or laundry products and strong smelling food and drinks.



6. Body Awareness (Proprioception)

Proprioception helps us know where our body is in space and how much force to use. It's essential for coordination, understanding where our bodies are in space, and perhaps surprisingly it is key to emotional regulation.

Children with poor proprioception may appear clumsy, bump into things, and constantly have bruises. They may use too much or too little force for tasks like writing. They may slump in their seats and/or fidget all the time.

Support strategies to help could be to:

- Build in heavy work: carrying books, wall pushes, moving mats
- Offer movement breaks using gym balls, peanut rolls,
- Give chair-based opportunities for movement with a wobble cushion, finger fidgets or TTS Fidgety Feet.
- Try softer pencils (2B) or a slope board to alter writing position.



7. Balance and Movement (Vestibular)

The vestibular sense, located in the inner ear, helps us balance and move confidently.

Children may seek constant movement (spinning, rocking or going upside down) and be constantly on the go. Others might be frightened or avoid movement due to dizziness or fear.

Support strategies to help could be to:

- Give opportunities for movement equipment like playground equipment or scooter boards, balance boards, or trampettes when indoors
- Provide stable seating so children have their feet flat on the floor.
- Scaffold PE sessions so children feel supported.
- Sensory circuits are an excellent way to develop confidence with movement and motor skills.

8. Internal Awareness (Interoception)

Interoception is the “hidden sense” that helps us notice internal body signals - hunger, thirst, temperature, or the need for the toilet. Some children don't recognise these signals until they're extreme, leading to discomfort, accidents, or emotional outbursts. Others can be overwhelmed by all these feelings or even mix them up and struggle to understand what their body needs.

Support strategies to help could be to:

- Use body check-in visuals to build awareness
- Offer regular breaks for snacks, drinks, or toilet visits
- Teach emotional vocabulary linked to body sensations (“my tummy feels tight when I'm worried”)
- Simple visuals and routines can make a huge difference in developing interoceptive awareness.

Supporting Sensory Differences in Daily Life

No two children experience sensory input in the same way. The goal isn't to remove all sensory challenges but to create environments where children can thrive.

In the classroom or at home small changes make a big impact. Consider:

- Flexible seating options and movement breaks
- Access to fidget or weighted tools
- Clear, calm visual spaces
- Choice and autonomy - letting children know when and how they can regulate
- A calm corner with soft lighting, weighted items, or lycra tunnels
- Sensory play with sand, water, or textured materials
- Movement breaks after homework or screen time

Building Sensory Understanding

Understanding the eight senses is the first step towards supporting children's regulation and wellbeing. When we view behaviour through a sensory lens, we can respond with empathy and creativity rather than frustration.

“When we view behaviour through a sensory lens, we can respond with empathy and creativity”



Final Thoughts

When sensory needs are recognised and supported, children feel more comfortable, confident, and ready to learn. Whether it's through small classroom adjustments, movement breaks, or dedicated sensory spaces, every child benefits from environments that value the power of the senses.



About the author: **Ali Neal**

Ali Neal is a specialist Occupational Therapist with advanced training in sensory processing. She runs School Sensory Solutions which provides regular and cost effective training for all educators supporting SEN and neurodivergent pupils in schools via an online learning platform. Ali prides herself in finding solutions to everyday problems experienced by children and young people at school that actually work and supporting teachers to incorporate these in their already busy days.

Ali presents regularly at national level on the topic of Occupational Therapy and sensory processing for a number of organisations across the country including at both The Autism Show and The OT Show. She has written a book on Sensory Movement Breaks and has written an award winning program for developing motor skills for children with special educational needs.



Outdoor calming and sensory spaces by Ruth Lue-Quee



A sensory space is a practical and effective way to provide a calming and safe space for children with autism and other special educational needs. Sensory spaces are often thought of as being a room inside. Many schools and classrooms have a sensory space, however an outdoor sensory space is less common and yet the outdoors in itself provides an amazing sensory experience.

Historically, being around nature and outdoors is how we as humans lived our lives. Our grandparents, greatgrandparents and ancestors spent so much more time exploring, working and enjoying being outside. Even today when we are outside, we are surrounded by telephones, technology and not switching off. As a generation up to 90% of our time is spent indoors. This means we are only giving 10% of our time to be outdoors.

Being outdoors has many benefits for all children.

It is vital to improve wellbeing, it is calming, peaceful, and allows us to tune in with ourselves and the world around us. For our children it is vital for supporting their brain development. By exploring with their senses, for example touching flowers, listening to the birds, feeling droplets of water and smelling the fresh air, they are strengthening the connections in their brain. A sensory space and experience allows children to become more aware of one's self, promotes mindfulness, self-regulation and builds resilience as well as many cognitive benefits. A sensory space outdoors can spark both sensory experiences that the child creates themselves by interacting with something, or can be a constant sensory experience that is heightened by the sensory properties of being outdoors.

In addition to the benefits above, for children with SEND a sensory space outdoors can help them to feel calm and provide a safe space to gain rest and respite when the environment within the classroom gets too much.

When setting up a sensory space, the key question to ask yourself is why? Why am I setting this up? What do I want my child to gain from being in this space and how will it support them?

Each space, school and student is unique and the sensory space you create should also be unique to the individual children in your care. Ultimately you want to create a space that gives children the freedom to explore the environment for themselves, using all of their senses.

This summer I had the pleasure of working with TTS Special Direct to create a calming sensory outdoor space and I'm going to share with you below my top tips to follow to create your own!

I wanted to create an area that would stimulate all the primary senses - sight, touch, smell, sound and taste but also provide a calming retreat to be in. It's important to highlight that having a sensory space is fantastic, but it's what happens in the space that is really important for supporting our children and young people. The role of a skilled and understanding adult is crucial - knowing when to step in, when to observe, when to reason and talk and equally as important, when not to do these things in the sensory space.

Sight

Light is a big factor in creating any sensory experience, but with being outdoors you have the added bonus of natural sunlight to really hone in on this sense.

- To add light into the sensory area I used a range of coloured mirrors, which I attached to the shed at different heights. They create a gorgeous reflection and my little boy absolutely loves running up to them and spotting himself.
- I also used old CDs which I hung from a tree. When these are hung, they make the most gorgeous reflections in the trees. By painting them and adding sparkly bits again adds another sensory dimension. You could place some lower down on a wall or glue some to a wooden board to make something tactile with light for your child to explore.

- I added TTS peg lights which are brilliant for creating a stimulating area on a grey day. I also clipped on different sensory bits of material to take off and explore when in the sensory space.
- You don't have to, but I wanted to put a theme to the outdoor sensory space and really enhance the woodland area so I put up a woodland fabric backdrop and added little toadstools and fairy houses into the borders to inspire and ignite my child's imagination too.

Tactile

The use of sensory resources can help children to develop a range of skills such as hand-eye co-ordination, fine and gross motor skills, and communication. Having something to feel, touch and do in the sensory space is also key for self-regulation.

Being outdoors in the sensory space boosts well-being which is vital for social and emotional mental health, and this coupled with the carefully selected sensory resources make for a perfect combination!

The items I used to stimulate touch were:

- Mark making mirror trees which children can draw on as well as see their reflection in.
- Wooden leaf mark making boards.
- Sensory floor tiles – these were amazing and I loved walking over them myself!
- For a DIY hack I also created a sensory board. This was simply a piece of wooden board which I glued items on to that I had around the house or from the DIY store.

Sound

Depending on whether a child is sensory seeking or sensory avoiding sound, the sensory space created caters to both. It is in a secluded, outdoor area with very little noise other than natural elements such as trees blowing or birds. This makes it the perfect environment for a child who is sensory avoiding as it is calm and quiet. However, I also included resources which would suit a child who was sensory seeking sound.

- I used the funky junkyard music frame, which is a big hit with my little boy who loves making his own sounds using the frame.
- I also created a music wall using wind chimes, recycled crates and pipes, boomwhackers, as well as pots, pans etc.
- Water is really calming and a great sensory play. It also makes a very relaxing sound so I created a water wall to go in the sensory space. A child can listen to the water trickle down, watch it or simply play with it.

Smell / Taste

In order to ignite this sense in the sensory space, I planted a variety of scented or edible plants. Herbs are particularly beneficial as they can have real effects on the body and mind when their scents are inhaled, such as rosemary can help ease fatigue and lavender helps you relax. Plants I recommend for this are lavender, mint, rosemary and basil.

Also... consider seating and soft furnishings

In addition to the above, I think it's really important to have a range of calming seating and lying down areas within the sensory space.

- The large beanbag from TTS is perfect for providing a cosy place for children to lie down and relax.
- If children prefer to be sat up right, or want to perhaps draw or write something I used old cable reels to create a DIY table and chairs and decorated them as toadstools to stick with the woodland theme.



Having an enclosed space is also important for children who may wish to have a smaller area, feel more enclosed, or be in darker light. The willow hut is perfect for this as is the portable sensory den. I added some sensory lights into the den to provide an additional sensory element, but this could be added or removed dependent upon the needs of your child.

Anything else?

As I mentioned previously, having a space with wonderful things is brilliant and children have the freedom to explore everything around them, but it's also important to provide mini tactile sensory items for your child to use whilst in the space. I therefore set up an outdoor box which contained threading pebbles, weaving numbers and sensory worry stones, that can all be taken out and used as required.

Setting up a sensory space can seem a really daunting task, but once you get started you will see all the opportunities around you in nature. Focus on the five primary senses and use the space you have to incorporate as many different sensory areas as you can.

Sensory Spaces: Design, Plan and Create

By Catherine Jewkes

BY CATHERINE JEWKES



We all know the numerous benefits of a well-equipped sensory space, from helping children to calm and regulate to offering a space for important skill development. They are becoming increasingly popular, but it can sometimes be tricky to know where to start and what to include.

The important thing to remember is that there is no 'set' sensory room. It needs to be a space that works for you and is based on the needs of the children who will visit.

At TTS, we recently had the opportunity to collaborate with a school to design, plan and create their new sensory environment. This article explores the approach that we took which will hopefully help you if you are on a similar journey.

1. What is the purpose?

Just as we do with most things in school, we had to understand the 'why' (the intent) for the space before we moved on to 'how' we would do it. So, we needed to find out:

- Why does the school want a sensory space?
- What do they want children to gain or benefit from when using the space?

Staff were clear. They wanted an integrated space within their nurture provision for children to calm, regulate and use their senses to explore and develop new skills such as communication and social skills.

2. Where will the sensory space be?

Next, we set off looking for the perfect location. It needed to be accessible, quiet, cosy, offer privacy but also offer enough space for multiple children to experience and learn together.

We decided on a corner within the nurture provision so that children could use the space both during and outside of their nurture sessions.

3. What furniture do we need?

After deciding purpose and location, we then moved onto decisions about furniture. To help us, we kept in mind how we wanted children to use the space. For example, did they need a table and chair to sit at? Did they need soft seating? And would we need a dark den?

We thought about:

- Tables and chairs
- Soft seating, such as beanbags or cushions
- Rugs and floor coverings
- A sensory den or pop up space
- Storage including baskets or bookcases for self selection

We started with a huge wish list and then put the resources in priority order. We all know things can be quite costly and creating a sensory space can often be a project over time.

4. What resources do we need?

This was definitely the most exciting part of the process. We wanted to create a space with resources that prompted interaction, exploration and offered lots of different sensory experiences.

So, we considered:

- Light and Colour – From low level lighting to bright lighting, we included lots of different visual and light experiences, such as a hurricane tube, fibre optics, a sparkle rug, light up cushions, glow resources, and illuminate writing boards. By offering a range of both bright and neutral resources, staff and children could tailor the sensory experience based on individual needs and preferences.
- Sound and Texture – Different textures were added through soft furnishings, seating and tactile resources, such as fidgets, so that there was a choice for children. For some children sound can be a really important aspect of their sensory experience, so we considered resources that could be used to create different sounds, such as instruments, rainsticks, etc.
- Weight and Vibration – We know the benefit that weighted resources can bring and how calming they can be for some children, so we included weighted lap buddies and vibrating cushions to add more opportunities to explore.

As well as considering the sensory aspects above, we also ensured there were resources for collaboration, interaction and that would support communication and social skills.

5. Set it up, step back and see the impact

After setting up the space, the most rewarding part was definitely taking a step back and watching as staff and pupils came to visit for the first time. We saw the children smile, engage and become completely engrossed in the space and resources.

With one pupil, let's call him B, the moment was best summed up by his speech and language therapist:

"We often don't really know how B is feeling, but today we knew for certain that he felt safe, content and happy ... to see him slowly explore the environment and interact with his peers was incredibly moving."

The power of a sensory space is so hard to explain in words, but when you see how the children explore, grow in confidence and feel calm, that is the magical moment when you see the real potential.

Here are a few words from the school staff that hopefully express the impact that a space like this can have:

"Thank you so much for giving the children such a wonderful sensory experience."

"I absolutely can't wait to use the equipment. It will give us so many opportunities to communicate and learn."

"The resources will make such a difference to the lives of these children, to us as a staff and to their families. Thank you, seems such an insignificant word to use, but ... thank you so much."



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