



In collaboration with...

Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Special Education; Educational Service Unit #4; Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Registration for the Nebraska Deaf-Blind Summer Institute

Focusing on Children with Significant Disabilities, including those with or without Sensory Disabilities

July 17-20, 2017

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln (East Campus)

Strategy to See: Strategies and Literacy for Students with CVI

July 17-18 (Monday-Tuesday)

Students who have Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI) have unique visual and learning needs. They require specialized educational strategies and often, environmental adaptations. Diane Sheline will talk about strategies and literacy for students with CVI. Included in the two-day training will be a discussion on what CVI is, identification of children with CVI, the 10 behavioral characteristics of CVI, how to determine appropriate strategies for this population and assessment tools to use. An overview of literacy for students with CVI will be discussed and literacy strategies will be infused throughout the two-day training. Books created specifically for students who visually function in Phase I, Phase II and Phase III will be shared and general guidelines when creating books for students with CVI will be reviewed. Plan to come to this motivational training and learn what you can do to encourage your student or child to use their vision more consistently and efficiently when working with literacy and throughout the day.

Presenter: Diane Sheline

Diane Sheline is a consultant, advocate and author of the new book, *Strategy to See; Strategies for Students with Cerebral/Cortical Visual Impairment*. Diane has over 30 years of experience in the field and works closely with teachers, families and early education teams, helping to determine the best strategies to use which will encourage more consistent and efficient use of vision in students with Cerebral/Cortical Visual Impairment (C/CVI). Diane's website, strategytosee.com, provides a variety of information on C/CVI including how to make unique visual targets (DIY section) and recommended materials to use with this special population.

Get Ready - Get Set - Write, Read - GO!

Emergent Literacy & AAC for Students with Complex Communication and Physical Challenges

July 19-20 (Wednesday-Thursday)

Students with complex communication and physical challenges, including those with dual sensory impairments, have tremendous problems with literacy learning. Many of these students may be unable to see, unable to hear, unable to hold a pencil, unable to hold a book and unable to talk about writing and books. It is no surprise that these students have significant challenges with learning to write and read. However, the good news is exciting research in the past decade has found that with the right instruction and the right tools, these students can develop as writers and readers. This workshop will focus on beginning writing and reading.

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Getting started with very early writing using a range of “alternative pencils” that don’t require hand use will be demonstrated, along with a variety of beginning writing activities, instructional feedback strategies and informal assessment. Shared reading, a rich language and literacy activity, will also be described and demonstrated, including finding great accessible books and teaching strategies. Other emergent literacy activities will be discussed, such as phonological awareness and alphabet instruction. Because the ability to communicate is central to all literacy learning, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) will be infused throughout the workshop. Literacy learning also requires that students be actively engaged, thus assistive technology, including apps will be shown. Sample IEP goals and ways of assessing change will be shared. Through a combination of hands-on activities, demonstration and lecture, participants will leave with a plan for getting started!

Presenters: Gretchen Hanser and Caroline Musselwhite

Dr. Gretchen Hanser is an educator and an occupational therapist. She has worked in a variety of educational settings developing model classrooms, developing school based assistive technology centers, providing teacher and related service provider trainings, participating in assistive technology assessment teams and working directly with students and staff in the classroom. Her primary focus has been on assistive technology, augmentative and alternative communication and literacy for students with the most significant disabilities. Gretchen presents nationally and internationally on these subjects. She completed her doctoral research on an integrated literacy and communication intervention with students with significant disabilities. Gretchen has a Masters in occupational therapy and also received her Doctorate in Education from the University of New Hampshire.

Dr. Caroline Musselwhite is an assistive technology specialist with more than 40 years of experience working with children and adolescents with significant disabilities in a variety of settings, including Head Start, clinics, developmental day programs, homes, and the public schools. Dr. Musselwhite has written a number of textbooks and “how-to” books on a range of topics, and has also authored many books and software programs for youth with disabilities. She has presented thousands of workshops throughout North and South America, Australia, Europe, and Africa, and is a founding member and Fellow of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication.

Participants of the Deaf-Blind Summer Institute may choose to apply for 2 graduate credit hours from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, with the understanding to complete required coursework. There is limited college credit support. Additional information is found on the registration form.

Register online: www.nebraskadeafblindproject.org **OR** www.ncecbvi.org under ‘Professional Development.’ If viewing this flyer online, you can also click on the following link to register now:
<https://goo.gl/forms/VnHNpcOxoR5N4vjv2>

Registration is DUE by: May 30, 2017
Additional details will be emailed to participants.

THERE IS NO COST FOR REGISTRATION.

Questions?

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