



February 2021 Edition

In this newsletter, I highlight Low Vision Awareness Month. My daughter has multiple visual impairments, so this issue is personal. The most common misconception with visual impairments is that they can be fixed with glasses. This is not true. Visual impairments are permanent, and glasses won't help. Specialists work with a person to maximize their functional vision.

Let me know who or what inspires you! Drop me a line at jenni@jennibasch.com. If you aren't already receiving this newsletter in your email, please join my list at jennibasch.com.

Have you heard of the Endless Reader App?



The Endless Reader app is an app developed by the Originator company that aims to help children learn to read using sight words. The company explains that learning through sight words helps the reader learn hard-to-spell words and words that can't be recognized through pictures. Rated as **E** for Everyone, its basic word package is free.

Some of the **Endless Reader's** features:

- Children can build sight words letter by letter
- Animation with sound-paired actions to keep the user engaged
- Word puzzles and sentence puzzles

Click [here](#) for more information.

February is Low Vision Awareness Month!



Did You Know?

- According to the American Foundation for the Blind, 10 million people in the United States have a visual impairment.
- A visual impairment occurs when the eye or parts of the brain needed to process images become diseased or damaged.
- Some conditions that can cause visual impairments include cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, amblyopia, and macular degeneration.
- There is no cure for a visual impairment, but vision therapists and ophthalmologists can help optimize the vision a person does have.



For more information about Low Vision, check out this website for resources and useful information:

<https://www.afb.org/blindness-and-low-vision>

Awesome Product Alert!

So here's a great specialty product - **Sensory Face Masks**. These masks are anti-fog and made with comfortable material. Lots of different patterns and made-to-order. The masks are made to allow air to vent out through the chin to help avoid chapped lips. Special note: these are not medical grade masks. Let me know if you try it!

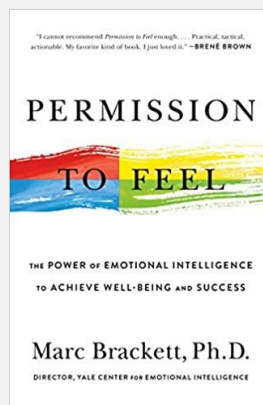
You can find it [here](#)



Book of the Month

Permission to Feel: The Power of Emotional Intelligence to Achieve Well-Being and Success by Marc Brackett is truly inspirational. Emotional intelligence is arguably one of the most underrated skills. Brackett's book discusses the importance of emotional wellbeing and how it affects everyday life. The author presents a system called RULER which develops and harnesses the power of emotions. This is a great book!

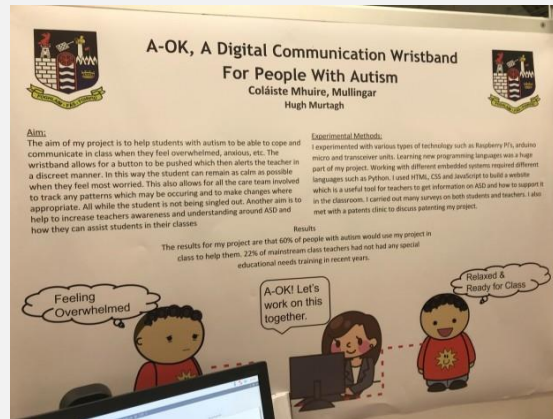
Marc Brackett's Book:



Get it [here](#)

Inspiring Stuff!

Hugh Murtagh presented at the recent BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition in January, 2021. His brilliant idea is a wristband which can be worn by a student in class. It has a button on it which can be pressed when the student feels overwhelmed and/or needs a break. The teacher becomes aware of the student's situation without drawing attention to the student in front of the rest of their classmates. Although it isn't commercially available at this time, I am super stoked at the potential such a product could have for students in the classroom.



Check out an article in the The Journal about his amazing project:

<https://www.thejournal.ie/young-scientist-autism-students-wristband-4959147-Jan2020/>

I hope this newsletter provided useful and inspiring information. Keep healthy and drop me a line if you have questions or comments.

Until next time,
Jenni Basch