



# Oregon Deafblind Project



## Building Effective Programs

Lyn Ayer, Project Director • Holidays December 2012



### Dec 2012

Hello everyone!  
I can't believe that it's almost the end of the year already! Where did 2012 go? As we all take time to celebrate the holidays, rush to and fro participating in holiday activities, rest and relax, or just take time to regroup — enjoy the brief respite before 2013 starts!

The Project now has a Pinterest page: [www.pinterest.com/lynbayer](http://www.pinterest.com/lynbayer) — Please note the "b" in my name. That way, you'll get to the Project's Pinterest information. Hope you find it as much fun as I have. It's great to be able to put things you like in one spot, organize them as you do this, and allow others to capture what they like.

I continue to post on our Facebook page whenever I get a chance . If anyone comes across any cool new info that others might enjoy — please send to me — and I'll post it on FB — and, if appropriate, also on Pinterest.

Happy 2013 everyone!

Lyn



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People really act weird at Christmas time! What other time of year do you sit in front of a dead tree in the living room and eat nuts and sweets out of your socks? (Unknown author)

## EQUAL TO THE CHALLENGE.....

We all learn to cope with what life throws at us — in different ways. One of these is, literally, writing your heart out. Poetry is a very apt way to express one's deepest feelings, stresses, and thoughts. Here is a touching website and a selection of poems from there.



### POEMS FROM THE HEART

- The Boy Was Seen, not his wheels: <http://www.disabled-world.com/communication/poetry/boy-who-was-seen.php>
- I'll try anything once: <http://www.disabled-world.com/communication/poetry/anything-once.php>
- My Father's Blind Son: <http://www.disabled-world.com/communication/poetry/fathers-blind-son.php>
- Singing in the Shower: <http://www.disabled-world.com/communication/poetry/singing-shower.php>
- Please Don't Stare: <http://www.disabled-world.com/communication/poetry/stare.php>
- It's For My Own Good: <http://www.disabled-world.com/communication/poetry/own-good.php>

AND FINALLY — ONE THAT I REALLY LOVE by Sheila Radziewicz :

- I am NOT: <http://www.disabled-world.com/communication/poetry/i-am-not.php>

Hope you enjoy reading these, relating to the words, thoughts, emotions expressed!



## LITERACY AND THE BRAIN



Now for the next passage! It is even stranger than the last one. But go ahead - give it a try!

In our newsletters, we have often referred to how wonderful the brain is, and how we need to encourage activities to stimulate our brains and those of our children who are deafblind — or not deafblind. There are many researchers who are looking at various aspects of the brain. Here's one activity used by researchers that involves literacy.

Read the following two passages out loud — and then share it with others. You will find it weird, but amazing:

7H15 M3554G3  
53RV35 7O POOV3  
HOW OUR M1ND5 C4N  
DO 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!  
1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!  
1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG  
17 WA5 H4RD BU7  
NOW, ON 7H1S LIN3  
YOUR M1ND 1S  
R34D1NG 17  
4U7OM471C4LLY  
W17H OU7 3V3N  
7H1NK1NG 4BOU7 17.  
B3 PROUD! ONLY  
C3R741N P3OPL3 C4N  
R3AD 7H15.  
PL3453 FORW4RD 1F  
U C4N R34D 7H15.

If we can read this — think about things that our children who are deafblind may also be able to do — that we didn't think they could! All children can learn. We may never know all that is embedded in the brain — in memory — and so we just have to look to enhance this the best way we can.

I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod  
aulacity uesdnatnrd what I  
was rdanieg. The  
phaonmneal pweor of the  
human mind, aoccdrnig to a  
rseearch at Cmabrigde  
Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr  
in what oerdr the ltteres in a  
word are. The only iproamtnt  
thing is that the frsit and last  
ltteer be in the rghit pclae.  
The rset can be a taotl mses  
and you can still raed it  
whotuit a pboerlm. This is  
bcusease the human mind  
deos not raed ervey lteter by  
istlef, but the word as a  
wlohe. Aزانمى هه؟ يا هه  
and I awlyas tghuhot spleing  
was ipmorantt!

So my message is not just about literacy — but about the amazing POSSIBILITIES!



Checking in with NCDB's news as they move forward with major initiatives. This issue of Deaf-Blind Perspectives also shares the sad news of the passing of several of our small community.

<http://www.nationaldb.org/dbp/current.htm>  
Please read! This will give you an idea of the direction the field of deafblindness is going!!