

Sensory-in-a-Suitcase

Standard and Deluxe Models

User Information
January 2011



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Introduction

Designed to explain the development of the Sensory-in-a-Suitcase as well as providing user information, advice and general suggestions as to how to achieve the maximum benefit from your purchase.

The suggestions on “how to use” the Suitcase are not exhaustive and many new and exciting ways are being developed everyday. Every user will have their own individual choices and preferences, experimentation and discovery is at the heart of the Suitcase’s purpose.

Development of Sensory-in-a-Suitcase

Sensory-in-a-Suitcase was developed by SensoryPlus in conjunction with North Kent Portage Service aims to provide resource for children unable to attend their local multi-sensory room due to the nature of their disabilities or recurring illness. Equally, children benefit from daily sensory stimulation within their own homes. Often responding more productively to sessions planned around the child’s most receptive and alert times.

The portable Sensory-in-a-Suitcase was loaned to a family with a child with cerebral palsy, affecting all four limbs and visual impairment. The benefits from daily stimulation were noticed within a month. The kit is very flexible and equipment can be moved around and used in a variety of ways to suit the needs of each individual. Using the sensory equipment enriches the quality of life and enables the development of more meaningful relationships with families, carers and the child’s immediate environment.

Special thanks to Kate Johnson and Wendy Hutcheson of North Kent Portage for their assistance.

Inside the Standard Suitcase

- Space Projector
- Fibre Optic Sideglow (100 tails x 2m) with Mini LED Lightsource
- Mirror Ball Kit with Pinspot and Filters
- Aroma Diffuser with Oils and Filter
 - Lemon, Lavender and Tea Tree
- LED Flash Light
- Blacklight (UV)
- Vibrating Snake
- Tactile Colour Pack
- Red, Yellow, Blue, Green Linelites (8mm diameter)
- Red, Yellow, Blue, Green Linelites (4mm diameter)
- Rainmaker
- Eggshaker
- Relax with Nature Compact Disc
- Mirror Thin Silver
- UV Mesh and Nylon Fabrics
- 4 Magic Rods
- 4-Way Gang & RCD
- Character Mirror
- UV Knot Ball
- Squeezie Ball
- LED Light Ball
- Squeezies (Set of 6)

This may not be a definitive list and some items are subject to change.

Inside the Deluxe Suitcase

(as per the Standard Suitcase plus)

- LED Interactive Portable Bubble Tube
- Low Profile Switch
- Microphone
- Roll Shaped Bag

Establishing an Environment for Sensory-in-a-Suitcase

The whole concept of the Sensory-in-a-Suitcase is that the sensory experience can be taken to the individual rather than the individual to the environment.

Amazingly compact, the suitcase houses a wealth of sensory equipment ideal for therapy, education and play activities.

To achieve maximum benefit from the lighting equipment within the suitcase, a darkened room is preferable. Simply draw the curtains or blackening the windows with dark paper to achieve the desired effect. Alternatively, create a more intimate darkened area within a larger room by setting up a small tent with the equipment inside.

It is important to remember that all the equipment does not have to be used immediately or during one session. Initially, it is advised that one piece of equipment at a time is experimented with, responses monitored and a picture of preference is built up over time. It is also important to recognize that a bad reaction is as valuable as a good reaction in understanding a users' preferences, strengths and weaknesses.

Space Projector

It's simple to use. Just plug into the mains or gang socket supplied. Ensure that the liquid wheel is pushed fully into the opening on the side of the projector. Now point the projector at the surface on which you wish to see the image. The projector will rotate up and down on its base enabling an image 1m in diameter to be projected.

The focus can be adjusted by turning the focusing lens at the front of the projector.

The image is formed by the rotation of the liquid oil wheel, as the projector warms up the oil in the wheel changes, moves and becomes more fluid. Almost silent and happy to be left for long periods without overheating, the Space Projector is a user-friendly piece of equipment, selected for its lightweight feel and reliability.

Shine onto the floor, walls or ceiling to encourage eye and body movement or to assist with themed activities. Projection onto netting or a sheet from behind or projection onto a small pop-up tent will bring the image closer.

Essential Oils

There are three essential oils included:- Lemon, Lavender and Tea Tree.

Essential Oils are plant extracts and are very concentrated. Each oil has its own unique healing properties and fragrance. Never use them directly on the skin (without a carrier oil such as Almond Oil) or internally.

There are several ways of using oils: Massage (when blended with a carrier oil such as Almond Oil); Bathing (a few drops added to water); Inhalation when used with an Aroma Diffuser or drops sprinkled on a handkerchief.

Aromatherapy can have a calming effect and help induce a feeling of well being. It can release vivid memories and help identify and associate an environment with relaxation, pleasure and reminiscence.

Aroma Diffuser

Plug into the power socket after sprinkling one or two drops of your chosen Essential Oil onto the removable pad situated at the bottom of the diffuser.

This is a cold air fan which has three settings – fast, slow and off.

A gentle and subtle aroma will effuse throughout the room.

Tactile Colour Pack

A standardised system of 4 bold colours, each distinctively textured and screen printed onto self adhesive sheets.

This easy to recognise system builds a bridge between visually impaired and sighted individuals. The colour pack enables identification of colour by touch and access information normally displayed in colour.



Use the sheets to make pictures, maps, labelling systems and games.

Mirror Thin Silver

This is a flexible piece of mirror material that is transparent if used with bright lights.

Hang the mirror material from the wall or enjoy the texture with your hands. Great reflective effects can be had with a torch or projector.

Rainmaker

This cylindrical column, when held upright creates the sound of rainfall as the beads inside fall from the top to the bottom.

A great tactile and sound effect.

Lightsource

For use with the fibre optic strands to create the light that reflects down the strands.

Insert the fibre optic harness into the circular fitting at the front of the lightsource. Use the attached 'Alun' Key to tighten the screw in the top of the black collar of the Mini Lightsource to lock the harness in position. Plug the lightsource into the mains power or 4-way gang plug and switch on at the back of the unit.

The LED lightsource replaces the traditional bulb driven 50w lightsource, removing the bulb (LED's don't use bulb technology) has simultaneously allowed SensoryPlus to dispense with the fan and make the unit much smaller. The new product is essentially maintenance free and should run indefinitely without the need for customer intervention.



Compact Disc

Relax with Nature compact disc from the New World collection to assist with the creation of a tranquil, relaxed and safe atmosphere as well as contributing to the sensory experience by stimulating hearing through the tone, pitch and rhythm of the music.

Use in your own music systems.

Experiment with the different sounds to create a variety of atmospheres or a "sound clue" to a particular activity.

Fibre Optic Sideglow

This is a spray of fibre optics that connects to a lightsource. Light emitted from the lightsource is reflected down the fibre optics.

There is no danger from electricity when handling the fibre optic strands. However, if the strands are bitten or broken, the fibres can escape and will cause a skin irritation if touched. They are not pleasant if swallowed and could cause distress. If the fibres do break they can be repaired quite easily (refer to Troubleshooting). Placing the fibre optics in the mouth without biting is not dangerous.

Do not, however, let this deter you from using the fibre optics as the benefits far outweigh the risk when used under supervision.

Note: If you are concerned please contact SensoryPlus to talk about the alternative 'Plastic Only' Fibre Optics.

Fibre optics are a great tool for visual tracking. Pass the fibre optics in front of the eyes, slowly and quickly or just wriggle them in front. The amount of light seen can be altered by holding a different number of strands at any one time.

If the fibre optics are too bright, cover them with the UV material or the Flexible Mirror Panel to tone down the brightness and provide a different effect. It also encourages exploration, balance and reaching.

Make a tent and use the fibre optic to create a "grotto" effect.

For those who have limited toe movement or tend to hold them in one position, try running one strand, firmly but gently along one side of their foot. Stimulating the sides of the foot will encourage movement, for example if a foot tends to turn in then stimulate the outside. They may only be tiny movements initially but significant results have been achieved using this method.

For hands, stimulate the back of the hand or between fingers to encourage wriggling!

Mirror Ball Kit with Pinspot and Filters

Comprising of a Mirror Ball and base with a Pinspot and three coloured filters. The Mirror Ball can either stand alone or be suspended using the retractable D-Ring located on the base of the holder. It is battery powered and when switched on the ball will rotate.

The Pinspot is powered by the mains socket or can be plugged into the 4-way gang socket. The filters fit on top of the lamp by unscrewing the front cover and inserting the chosen filter. Do not change filters whilst in use or straight after use as the Pinspot may be hot.

Pointing the Pinspot at the Mirror Ball provides a "ballroom" effect.

Excellent for tracking skills, colour work and aids anticipation and concentration. Try pointing the Rage torch at the Mirror Ball for a more interactive effect. Alternatively, use the Mirror Ball in natural sunlight for a different effect.

Vibrating Snake

This battery powered massager is pliable and can be wrapped around the body for great effect.

Dribbling children enjoy the vibration through the lips and also when it is placed close to the ear.

Try it around a neck or use it as a brush similar to the method described with the fibre optics.

It can help relax very tight muscles.

Please note: The battery will be upside down on receipt, please insert the correct way before use.



Pinspot and Mirror Ball

Blacklight Generator

This Ultra Violet light is powered by the mains or the 4-way gang socket.

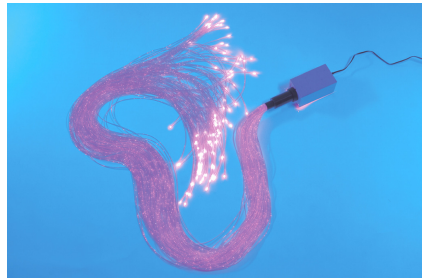
It can be placed on its end, on its back or hung using the holes in the rear.

The tube is fragile so care is needed when handling. Ensure that it is repacked with the tube facing down in the Suitcase to prevent damage. Supervision is essential at all times due to the fragile nature of the glass tube.

The Blacklight Generator is a useful tool to aid concentration. Fluorescent objects and material will glow many times brighter than in natural light creating a focusing and exaggerated effect.

Dark objects can be placed against the UV fabrics to illuminate them better.

Using white gloves, UV reactive wrist/leg bands and lip salve will emphasise movement.



Fibre Optic Sideglow with Mini LED Lightsource

Egg Shaker

This little egg-shaped shaker easily fits in the palm of a hand and can be rolled or shaken for tracking or attention gaining activities.

Try this to open out closed fingers: roll the egg across the back of the hand and see if the fingers will open. Quickly roll the egg onto the open palm as the fingers close. It is a nice way to open out a closed hand without manipulation.

Use as a tracking device, shaking the egg at different points around a room.

UV Mesh, Black Mesh and UV PVC

These are 1m² of fabric that can be used for a variety of purposes.



They are fire retardant and will fluoresce under UV light whilst the black mesh will provide a good background to put UV reactive objects against.

Character Mirror

A small, soft item with a mirror on one side.

Magic Rods and Linelite

Magic Rods are lengths of smooth UV reactive acrylic material that glows under UV lighting.

Try rolling them on the floor under UV light.

Linelite is flexible plastic tubing which is highly fluorescent under UV light.

Try draping the Linelite between fingers and hands or over a chair.

4-Way Gang Plug with RCD

Use this as an extra safety measure when working with the electrical equipment. The RCD plug will safeguard against electrical shock.

Plug the RCD into the mains socket, press the top button to set.

This product list is subject to change.

Deluxe Sensory-in-a-Suitcase

As Standard plus:

- LED Interactive Portable Bubble Tube with Sensitivity Switch Control
- Low Profile Switch
- Microphone
- Roll Shaped Bag

Low Profile Switch

This highly sensitive switch provides a positive and rewarding click when pressed.

Ideal for those with limited hand movement.

Microphone

From a whisper or blowing action the microphone switch can be activated.

Good vocal stimulation.

Roll Shaped Bag

Always ensure that the foam polo is secured around the neck of the bubble tube when packing for ultimate protection and that the switch and microphone are housed in their bags.

The outside of the bag can be wiped with a mild soap solution to remove any marks or debris.

LED Interactive Portable Bubble Tube with Timer Control

LED Bubble Tubes are an alternative to the traditional colour wheel and bulb bubble tubes. They provide purer, stronger colour and a greater effect whilst eliminating the need for replacement bulbs and colour wheels.

The interactive bubble tube helps stimulate responses and encourages development and interaction.

The bubble tube should be filled with water to within 2" of the top of the tube and should be switched on before filling.

The two jack sockets are for use with switches that have the appropriate jack fitting including the Low Profile Switch and the Microphone included.

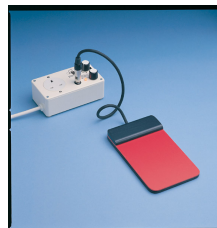
Both left and right sockets can be used for either a switch or the Microphone. The right socket is for bubbles and the left socket is for light.



If the Low Profile switch is plugged into the left socket the Microphone is plugged into the right and is controlled by the timer switch.

The length of timer delay can be set using the centre knob and will adjust from approximately 0–30 seconds.

If the switches are not connected the bubble tube will function as a standard bubble tube, bubbles bubbling and colours changing automatically.



Low Profile Switch

Packing and Transportation

- **The Bottom of the Suitcase**
- **The Top of the Suitcase**
- **Closing the Suitcase**

The Bottom of the Suitcase

The bottom of the suitcase has been designed to hold the more delicate equipment. Most items will only fit in one place which helps with repacking.

Key items to ensure they are repacked correctly to avoid breakage:

- Black Light Generator ensure that the tube is placed face down.
- Water is completely emptied from the Bubble Tube (if applicable).
- The screw lids on the aromatherapy bottles are secure.

The Top of the Suitcase

The remaining items fit in the top half of the case, either loose, in the pocket or into one of the 4 bags.

One of the bags is for the Space Projector. This bag is attached to the case for extra protection. The other three bags will fit around it in the top of the suitcase.

There is no definitive way of packing these bags except ensuring that the case will close properly.

However, below is a suggestion:

Bag 1 – Space Projector

Bag 2 – Vibrating Snake, CD, 4 Way Gang Socket and RCD, Tactile Colour Pack.

Bag 3 – Character Mirror, Squeezies (set of 6), Line Lite, Squeezie Balls, LED Lightball, UV Knot Ball

Bag 4 – Fibre Optics, Egg Shaker, Rainmaker, LED Flash Light

Closing the Suitcase

When the case is closed, make sure it will lock without excessive force.

The items in the top may need “jiggling” about before retrying.

Lock the case using the two side clasps and the middle fastener.

If you are using the combination lock, please ensure that the combination is easily remembered or recorded somewhere safe.

Troubleshooting – Replacements and Spares

Space Projector – 20w 12v Dichroic close front 35mm dia lamp = SE074

Mirror Ball Kit – battery size D

Pinspot – 5 amp plugtop fuse, 5 amp glass internal fuse.

Aromatherapy Diffuser – Filter = SE501

Oils = Page 68 and 69

LED Flash Light – 3 x size AAA Batteries

Black Light Generator – 18" UV Tube Replacement = SE367

Vibrating Snake – 2 x Size C Batteries

4 – Way Gang Socket and RCD = SE408

Highlighter Pens = 100934

Pinspot Bulb = SE312 (Page 36)

Sensory in a Suitcase Top-Up Kit = SE069 (Page 25)

Sensory in a Suitcase Top-Up Kit contents

SensoryPlus Drawstring Bag contains:-

- UV Torch
- Space Projector Wheels (4)
- White UV Granulite
- Yellow UV Granulite
- Tisserand Aroma Filters (2)
- 1 Large and 1 Small Koosh Ball
- Mini Shadowboard (25cm x 30cm)
- White Projection Brolly

Helpline

Should you have any concerns either pre or post purchase of the Sensory-in-a-Suitcase contact our Customer Services team on **Freephone 0800 212709** or from outside the UK **+44 (0) 1440 705352** to discuss further. Alternatively, if you purchased your Sensory-in-a-Suitcase from a Kirton distributor in the first instance please contact your point of reference there.

All the items in the Sensory-in-a-Suitcase are available individually, so in the event of misplaced or damaged items ring the above number for details on pricing and ordering.

If you have faulty goods please inform our Customer Services Team as soon as possible.

sensory+

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