

- **Common Sense** is an independent nonprofit organisation dedicated to helping children thrive in a world of media and technology. They can help steer away from things that are developmentally inappropriate and help find the hidden gems that are right for families and children. There is some useful information about Fortnite and reviews of other games as well as some helpful insights into current social media trends. There is also a dedicated section for special needs and learning difficulties. To find out more go to: <https://www.commonsemmedia.org/>
- **Disability Football Opportunities** - Across Devon in the summer holidays, there are a number of Summer Holiday Football programmes for children with additional needs and disabilities taking place. Football activity days in Plymouth, Exeter & Torquay will include fun games, multi-skills activities, matches and prizes to be won. Details of these events and the weekly children's disability football clubs running across Devon can be found at: <http://www.devonfa.com/news/2018/jul/17/summer-disability-roadshows-in-devon>
- **Special Effect** put fun and inclusion back into the lives of people with physical disabilities by helping them to play video games. By using technology ranging from modified joypads to eye-control, they're finding a way for people to play to the very best of their abilities. But they're not just doing it for fun. By levelling the playing field, they're bringing families and friends together and having a profoundly positive impact on therapy, confidence and rehabilitation. There's no charge for any of their help, for further details go to: <https://www.specialeffect.org.uk/>
- **Blue Light Day** Wednesday, 15th August 2018, 10am - 2.30pm, Westpoint, Clyst St Mary, Exeter, EX5 1DJ. Attractions include: Police drone, Workshops Saints South West, Information on healthy living, First-aid, Fire service simulator, Music and dance, Food and drink, Exhibitors/stalls, Inclusive sports and more. For the disabled community and their carers, BSL interpreters available. For information please call: 07808 053992 (Jo Morgan) or 07889 173959 (Bobby Singh)
- **Borrow Box** is a service from Cerebra where books can be borrowed, two at a time for 28 days at a time. The books are sent out in the post with a freepost label for return at the end of the loan period, so it's completely free. ebooks and audiobooks are now also available and can be accessed via the BorrowBox app on a smartphone, tablet or from a computer. To find out more and see the range of resources available go to: <http://www.cerebra.org.uk/practical-help/borrow-fiction-from-our-borrowbox-library/>
- **South West Autism** – (SWA) In preparation for the new academic year SWA are offering another chance for professionals to gain understanding and skills in delivering Lego therapy in their settings with children on the autistic spectrum. This course is suitable for support assistants, teachers, SENCOs etc. The course will take place at SWA Pinhoe office, Exeter on September 4th from 10am-12am at a cost of £20.00 per person. To find out more and to book a place contact: southwestautism@gmail.com or www.southwestautismsupport.com or Tel: 07582 608641
- **Morrisons launches autism-friendly 'quieter hour' in all its supermarkets**
Morrisons has launched an autism-friendly 'quieter hour' for shoppers who struggle with music and noise. The supermarket has worked with the National Autistic Society to create a calmer shopping experience on Saturday mornings. From 9am to 10am, the lights will be dimmed in all stores and the music and radio will be turned off. Tannoy announcements will also be avoided, checkout beeps and other electrical noises will be turned down, and trolley and basket movements will be kept to a minimum. To find out more contact your local store.



Find us on Facebook.....like the SIGNPOSTplus page for regular updates on all things related to children with additional needs.

An archive of the previous four weeks of snippets can be found at the SIGNPOSTplus page on the Devon Integrated Children's Services website: <http://devon.integratedchildrenservices.co.uk/signpostplus/>

If you no longer wish to receive these bulletins please let me know and I will remove your details from the mailing list.

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