

Zach, Moving in Space

Presenters Name: Rebecca Steritz

Intended Audience: School Administrators, Early Interventionists, college professors of Special Education including Visual Impairments and Developmental Disabilities, O&M Specialists, Pediatric Ophthalmologists, Teachers of Visual Impairments and Disabilities, O&M Specialists, plus Parents of and Children with Disabilities.

Session Description:

I have created a documentary about Zach, who is a thirteen-year-old boy that was born blind. I had the opportunity to work with him for seven years from Preschool through Fourth Grade. The documentary chronicles his early years, and how his parents encouraged him to “Move in Space”.

His parents noticed his visual impairment when they took him camping at the age of three months. Zach’s parents enjoy outdoor activities that include biking, hiking, kayaking, camping, and skiing. Early on, they placed significant importance in developing Zach’s sense of balance and movement. Currently, Zach rides a bike, delivers newspapers, and skis.

The documentary illustrates the effects of early intervention, and positive parental role models of children with disabilities. The film provides unique approaches toward movement independence for teachers and parents of children with disabilities.