



Tree Fu Tom and Dyspraxia

The Dyspraxia Foundation is thrilled that Tree Fu Tom, the multi- platform animated adventure programme that was developed to benefit children with dyspraxia is proving so popular! CBeebies and their partners FremantleMedia are planning further promotion of the programme and are looking for parents/carers who would be willing to talk to the press about how participating in Big World Magic has helped their child.

If you have a child with dyspraxia aged from 3-6 years and would be willing to share your story please complete the attached form and return it to admin@dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk Information will be shared with Valerie Taylor who is the PR manager for Tree Fu Tom who will be arranging stories with women's magazines, health pages in national newspapers and in the parenting press.

We at the Dyspraxia Foundation will provide volunteers with information about Tree Fu Tom and dyspraxia to help them with any interviews. Please help us to make the most of this opportunity to raise awareness of dyspraxia!





CASE HISTORY FORM

Impact of Tree Fu Tom on children with dyspraxia

This form will help us to learn more about you and your family's experiences watching Tree Fu Tom made in partnership with the Foundation.

Please note that the information you provide on this form will be shared with Valerie Taylor who is the PR manager for Tree Fu Tom. When Valerie has identified a women's magazine, newspaper or other parenting magazine that is interested in writing an article about the Tree Fu Tom and dyspraxia she will contact parents who have completed this form to arrange an interview.

Some key facts about dyspraxia and Tree Fu Tom are provided at the end of this form, but you are welcome to contact the Dyspraxia Foundation office for further support if you are invited to give an interview.

Thank you for volunteering to help raise the profile of such an important cause.

YOUR NAME:

ADDRESS:

CONTACT DETAILS:

(Work, home & mobile tel nos.) **Mobile:**

Home:

E-mail:

I am the parent of a child who watches Tree Fu Tom :

I am a professional

Professional role:

Age of child :

Who diagnosed your child with dyspraxia/Developmental Coordination Disorder?

Please tick if your child receives any of the following:

- occupational therapy
- physiotherapy
- speech & language therapy
- specialist teaching
- other (please describe)

Please use the space below to briefly explain your experience of Tree Fu Tom and how your child or children you support have responded to it. (please use additional paper if necessary):

Has it made any difference to your child's co-ordination or movement? Tell us if/how you feel your child's movement or coordination has changed as a result of the programme

Please describe any other benefits you have seen:

Did you face any difficulties with carrying out the movements?

I am happy to speak to the following media about my experience (please tick):

Newspapers Radio TV Magazine

I attach a photo (Optional) yes no

SIGNED:

DATE:

Please return the completed form to:

Post: Dyspraxia Foundation, 8 West Alley, Hitchin, Herts SG5 1EG

Email: admin@dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk

Fax: 01462 455052

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Information about Dyspraxia Foundation and Tree Fu Tom

About dyspraxia

- Dyspraxia is an **impairment or immaturity of the organisation of movement**, language, perception and thought. It can also affect speech.
- It is a **life-long condition** that is often diagnosed in childhood. However, it is increasingly being identified in adults whose difficulties were not recognised when young.
- Dyspraxia is due to an **immaturity in the development of the nervous system** which means that messages are not sent accurately around the body.
- Although there is often an overlap with other developmental conditions (such as ADHD, autism and dyslexia) it is a **unique and separate condition**
- The **cause of dyspraxia is unknown**, although research suggests that children born early may be at increased risk. It is not the result of brain damage.
- Dyspraxia **affects 5-10% of the school-aged population**, with 2% being severely affected.
- It affects **more boys than girls**.
- Dyspraxia makes it **difficult for people to carry out everyday activities** that others take for granted, like tying shoe laces, riding a bike, handwriting and taking a telephone message.

Tree Fu Tom and Dyspraxia

- Tree Fu Magic, whilst fun for all children to do, was **developed to benefit children with dyspraxia** in particular
- The spells consist of **short sequences of linked movements** and were **developed by occupational therapists** who are experts in children's motor development
- The spells **incorporate 12 fundamental movement skills** that children with dyspraxia often struggle to master, for example balance, shoulder strength, spatial awareness and fluency of movements.
- Children are encouraged to do the Tree Fu moves along with Tom, so **practising the motor skills they need for everyday tasks** such as pulling on socks, pouring a drink and controlling a pencil.
- Participating in Tree Fu Magic **increases the opportunity for motor development** throughout the child's week and is a **fun** way for children to practice the exercises often recommended by therapists, without them realising what they are doing.

Famous people who have dyspraxia

Daniel Radcliffe – the star of Harry Potter says that he is unable to tie his shoe laces. However he has achieved worldwide success as an actor on film and on stage. One of his major achievements was to receive an award for his dancing performance which shows what people with dyspraxia can achieve with determination and practice.

Florence Welch – the singer is proud to have dyspraxia and feels that her ability to think in a different way to others helps her creativity.

Contact information

Website: www.dyspraxiafoundaton.org.uk

Email: dyspraxia@dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk

Telephone: Unfortunately we had to close our telephone helpline because of lack of funding last year. We hope to reopen it soon. Email enquiries are welcomed.

Facebook: Dyspraxia Foundation

Dyspraxia Foundation National Adult Support Group

Dyspraxia Foundation West Midlands Development