



# Sensational Kids: Hope and Help for Children with Sensory Processing Disorder

*Lucy Jane Miller , Doris A. Fuller*

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Imagine, for a moment, that you are a parent of a child with no visible disability, but whose experiences of everyday life present constant challenges. What may be typical activities for most people-eating, dressing, making friends, taking a spelling test, responding to a hug-are a struggle, often resulting in social, emotional, and academic problems.

This is the bewildering and largely uncharted world of Sensory Processing Disorder-a complex brain disorder affecting one in twenty children. These children experience sensations- taste, touch, sound, sight, smell, movement and body awareness-vastly differently from other children their ages.They may feel attacked by the slightest touch, fail to register bumps and bruises, or be unable to figure out where they are in space without constantly touching others. While SPD is more widely recognized than it once was, parents of these sensational children have been searching for ways to help their children navigate in the world. Dr. Lucy Miller, the best-known SPD researcher in the world, is that voice: warm, clear, and upbeat, Dr. Miller identifies the disorder and its four major subtypes, provides insight into assessment and diagnosis, and suggests treatment options and strategies, including the importance of occupational therapy and parental involvement. Portraits of five children illustrate the different ways in which SPD may manifest itself as well as how families cope, while offering hope and advice to parents on how to be the best possible advocates for their children.

Comprehensive and compassionate, "Sensational Children" is the book no parent, teacher, or caregiver of children with SPD should be without.

## **Sensational Kids: Hope and Help for Children with Sensory Processing Disorder** **Details**


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## **From Reader Review Sensational Kids: Hope and Help for Children with Sensory Processing Disorder for online ebook**

### **Shannon D says**

Another really great resource for parents navigating children with SPD. It's an event blend of anecdotes, practical advice, and the science behind the disorder. We'll be going back to this one frequently as we navigate the unknown waters.

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### **Sara says**

I clearly took a long time to get through this. It was read in spurts, many of them while sitting in the hall at OT appointments. The day-in-the-life chapters were slow going, if informative for the types of SPD my own child doesn't have. The chapters on the research, correlations, treatment outcomes were more engaging to me. Overall I would put this with Out of Sync Child on the must read list for any parent who knows or suspects their child has SPD.

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### **Stacey says**

This book was so helpful. It aided me in figuring out the needs of my child and seeking out the therapy she needed.

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### **Kymerlie says**

Many books about sensory integration dysfunction or sensory processing disorder tell you which activities are helpful for various sensory stresses. This book helps the parent understand what might be the trigger in order to help the child understand what is affecting them and then which activities to use. I found this very helpful.

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### **Katie says**

Great info for parents and teachers... An absolute must-read for pedi OTs. Loved it from start to finish and will be coming back to the chapter on treatment and strategies many times as I try to incorporate these ideas into my own treatment!

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### **Bonnie Ogle says**

Excellent explanation of and strategies for families of kids with Sensory Process Disorder. A child near and dear to me can whirl like a dervish without getting or dizzy, yet is afraid to go shopping because so much

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input is overwhelming. This book will help parents and teachers of kids who constantly struggle in ways we can only imagine.

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### **Stacey says**

This book provides a wealth of information about sensory processing disorder in an easy to understand way. I found it easier to understand than "The Out of Synch Child", however, I haven't read that cover to cover yet.

Its amazing that a glitch with one (or more) of the senses can result in behaviors that you wouldn't expect to be related. For example, a problem with the vestibular system not only affects a child's balance but also may cause the child to be inattentive, impulsive, disorganized, and have poor fine motor skills. This book was eye-opening for me and finally gave me the answers I was looking for!

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### **Macandamanda Mcgee says**

Amazing book! I loved how the author broke down each child's case by a short story of their lives. It allowed you to get a personal observation, before explanation from the author. It helped me significantly in my Montessori Toddler classroom. I am seeing the children for the first time! Wonderful book to understand sensory issues!! highly recommend!

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### **Sarah says**

Very well written and a great introduction into the sensory needs of children. I like how the author weaves practical advice into storytelling about children with different sensory processing disorders.

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### **Mary says**

This was an excellent book about Sensory Processing Disorders in children. It is very readable and accessible and provides great insight and descriptions. The "case study" chapters of the individual children were especially enlightening.

If, as this book suggests, 5 to 14 percent of all children have some form of a Sensory Processing Disorder, I think that this book (or other information on the Disorder) should be mandatory reading for all of those involved in the educational system. I believe that it would make a huge difference in our schools if teachers were aware of the difficulties that so many children face in association with their sensory system, and were equipped with quick ways to aid these children in the classroom, thus facilitating their educational success. I hope that my having read this book has made me more aware and will make me a better parent.

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### **Jaq says**

I can't begin to express how glad I am to have read this book. Having these concrete strategies on hand to

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address my SPD kiddo's needs and challenges is unspeakably useful, but even better is having the confidence to be able to identify the personal goals toward which we'd like to work as a family, and to be able to employ those strategies with the help of our OT to achieve them.

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### **Tabby says**

This is hardly a book I would have picked up casually. My oldest son struggles with sensory processing disorder and it's heartbreaking to watch him struggle everyday. Things that seem so easy or normal overwhelm him and it's hard to predict what will cause him to melt down. Sensational Kids by Lucy Jane Miller helped make some sense of what is going on in my sons brain and ways I can help him adjust. It also helped me feel not so alone. The title is true, there is hope and help out there.

I will say there are times the book gets rather scientific and a bit over my head, clearly some parts are aimed more at experts working with children with sensory processing disorder. But there is a lot of good information in this book for parents, too.

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### **Suzy says**

This book gives an in-depth look at all the variations of sensory processing disorder and presents ideas to help children with the disorder live joyfully and peacefully. It also is the only book on the subject that I've read to explain the current research in detail; the studies are new, but they are promising, in terms of finding causes and treatment. The book also includes an excellent resources section, with support web sites, on-line sources for sensory materials, and other books on the subject.

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### **Elizabeth Segroves says**

Good primer on SPD. Plugs her program but not too aggressively

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### **Julia Southwick says**

This book was definitely helpful, but I still feel like I have lots of questions. It's hard living in a small community with few resources. Parenting a child with SPD is admittedly exhausting, so I'll just keep looking for solutions and ideas! It was definitely a helpful resource though.

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