

OUTCOME EXAMPLE FROM THE TRAINING; SSP and DB PERSON WORKING TOGETHER

In this video clip we first see the DB student or trainee in a grocery store with an experienced SSP. The student is practicing using an SSP for grocery shopping for the first time after her lesson, and is being observed by her instructor who will give her feedback. The instructor, who is deaf-blind, is using an interpreter-SSP. (See "Example of How A Deaf Blind Teacher Uses a Support System")

This is in a small to medium sized grocery store in the city and the student, who has close vision, has asked the SSP to guide her to the apples. The SSP gets the DB woman's attention as she lowers the hand-held basket, and says, "There are different kinds of apples in the bin. These green ones [right here] are Granny Smith. Do you want me to tell you the names of all the different kinds displayed here?" The student says "No, I think Granny Smith are perfect, sweeter than other apples. I had forgotten the name of them; thank you for letting me know. Granny Smith." The student then begins to look at the apples but pauses, thinking. She then asks the SSP "Can you help me find unbruised apples." And then begins to feel the apples herself [before asking the SSP for visual information about them]. Other shoppers walk by, focused on their own errands.

The scene changes to the DB woman and SSP walking out of an aisle in the same store. The SSP guides her around to the dairy cases where they stop. The DB woman then asks the SSP, "Show me the shelf with 2% milk." The SSP confirms, "2% milk?" and the DB woman nods affirmatively. The SSP says, "Sure" and then looks over the large bank of refrigerated cases. As she does so, the SSP uses the 'look-at' hand-shape, indicating the direction of her gaze as the DB woman tracks the movement tactually. This way the DB woman knows where the SSP is looking and how rapidly her gaze scans the shelves. It also gives the DB woman a sense of the size of the display of various kinds and categories of milk. The SSP informs the DB shopper that she has found the 2% section at which time the DB woman adds, "... and a half-gallon container." Together they move a few steps to where the half-gallon, 2% milk is shelved. The SSP says, "It's the last shelf." The DB woman opens the refrigerated case and leans down to the bottom shelf, checking with the SSP that she is reaching for the right carton, pulls it out and asks the SSP to read the expiration date on the carton. Once the SSP reads out, "Sept. 19th." The DB woman gives a thumb up then asks for the price. The SSP reports, "\$4.39." and the DB woman replaces the carton in the refrigerator, takes the carton next to it and checks via the SSP that the expiration date is the same, and places it in her shopping basket.

The scene changes once again. Now the two are in the bulk section. The DB woman places her basket on the floor and the SSP identifies the relative size of the bulk

department and then categories of food on the right hand wall in this section. [The bulk section is in a sort of alcove with three walls.] The SSP says, "The top shelf has bitter chocolate to the right, nuts to the left, below that dried beans, below that candy, some mixed and some 'energy bars'; the bottom shelf has different kinds of trail mix, snacks, so this area is the sweets." The DB woman nods her understanding. The SSP adds information that other bins in the area have grains, etc. which she cannot see clearly from this position. The DB woman looks vaguely at the shelf and says, "Let me think, I'm trying to remember the kind of mix I like. I came here with a friend once who offered me a taste of something that was super. The taste was fantastic. I think it was called 'Harvest'. Do they have something like that?" The SSP pats with her hand that is on the DB woman's shoulder to indicate her understanding and looks. "There's one called Wild Ginger Harvest." "Yes!! The DB woman smiles and nods rapidly. I'd like to scoop out some" and begins looking for the utensil. Meanwhile, the SSP notices the bags and informs the DB woman that they are behind her, to her left and after the DB woman nods, the SSP guides her to them, indicating them on the shelf. The DB woman reaches for the small plastic bag, gets the paper-wire-tie (also needed) and asks where the bags are; the SSP guides her hand just to the left of the ties and as the DB woman retrieves the bag and prepares it for the treats, the scene fades.

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This tape was made simultaneously with the one showing the DB Instructor using an SSP-interpreter as a support system for observing the student. Two cameras were used for filming: one camera focused on the instructor and her support, while the other camera focused on the DB woman and her SSP. The teacher occasionally interrupted the shopping to offer feedback and further instruction, as this was the first practice exercise in which to apply the lessons learned. This tape has been edited to demonstrate the successful outcome of both the original instruction and feedback.