

Resources and support to help care for loved ones with cerebral palsy.



## Wishing You a Spooky, Thankful, and Thoughtful Season

So, we have the start of a new school year behind us, the holidays are looming on the horizon, and most of us are looking forward to—or hoping for—a bit of a break. It's the time of year where, in the space of just two months, we get to be spooky, give thanks, bring out our family traditions (or create new ones), and celebrate our many versions of the “holiday season.”

Gift-giving is a huge part of many of those celebrations, so we thought we'd ease some shopping dread with a few tips on what to look for in fun, safe, adaptive toys for those with cerebral palsy. We also have some insight on the different types of augmentative communication devices available to help us all better connect.

In this issue our legal folks want to tell you about the medical errors and a lack of oxygen during birth which can lead to brain injuries like cerebral palsy. And finally, there's also a bit about the part a cranial ultrasound plays in the diagnosis of CP.

Because our best stories often come from our readers, we invite you to share some of your CP experiences, too. Tips, hacks, special moments, inspirational people...we're interested in what brings you comfort, joy, and laughs. Reach out to us at [families@cpfamilynetwork.org](mailto:families@cpfamilynetwork.org) so we can share with everyone!

If you haven't already, check out our [Facebook page](#). Over 113,000 strong, it's an active community full of inspiring news, CP Heroes, personal stories, and more!

### FEATURE STORY

## Adaptive Toys for Cerebral Palsy

Selecting toys for children that have cerebral palsy can present a challenge for some parents, friends, and caregivers. It's important to choose toys that are easy for children with CP to use so that they can have fun safely, regardless of their difference in abilities. Rest assured that there are many options available.

### LET'S PLAY



## LEGAL

### Brain Injury from Lack of Oxygen and Cerebral Palsy

When an infant sustains injury to the brain before or during birth, cerebral palsy may result. Learn about the relationship between a brain injury and cerebral palsy and how cerebral palsy from a brain injury could occur.

[GET HELP NOW](#)



### Augmentative Communications for Cerebral Palsy

Augmentative communication devices enhance communication for those with cerebral palsy by augmenting their speech patterns, gestures, and vocalizations. They may improve communication and allow those with cerebral palsy to make new connections with family members, friends, and others in their community.

[LEARN MORE](#)



### Cranial Ultrasound and Cerebral Palsy

If a child continues to miss critical milestones or fails to hit them within an appropriate developmental timeline, your pediatrician may refer you to a pediatric neurologist. These doctors specialize in diseases affecting infants and children's nervous systems. They will begin the diagnostic process by conducting various neurological tests such as cranial ultrasound to help determine if a child has a brain injury that has led to cerebral palsy.

[GET A CLOSER LOOK](#)



## OCTOBER CP HERO

### Say Hi to Dylan!

This fiercely independent 9-year-old lets nothing stand in his way. He suffered a stroke during birth, which led to a diagnosis of hemiplegic cerebral palsy at age 1. Dylan has been in and out of therapy ever since, with a goal of doing therapy on his own and ditching his AFOs. He is so determined to do everything on his own, including earning a black belt in Taekwondo (he's already halfway there)! Way to go, Dylan!

[SHARE YOUR CP HERO](#)



## Got a Story Idea?

Some of our most popular blogs and articles have come straight from the CPFN community. Travel tips, new therapies, inspiring people... whatever you want to see on our pages. After all, this is your newsletter!

[TELL US WHAT YOU WANT TO READ](#)



“Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.” —James Baldwin

We love celebrating amazing kids and helpers in the CP community, so if you want to see your child or loved one featured on our page and newsletter, we want to hear from you! Send us a photo, a short bio, and tell us why they're your CP Hero.

[SHARE YOUR HERO](#)



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



# Happy Holidays



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