Social Environment Notes

1. He needs extended wait time (10-20 second count silently). Repeating the same thing or asking a new question, causes him to restart his auditory processing. He will usually look at you or off to the side if he is thinking about what you said; if he reaches for objects around him, he probably isn’t.
2. He prefers that all lights be kept on in the living/dining area and doors are closed .
3. In general, because of his visual loss and hearing sensitivity it is better to move slowly around his environment. Fast movement and fast excited speech should be reserved for times when he is excitedly participating in an activity.
4. He needs break time after his bath (about an hour to self-regulate). Leave him alone and stay out of his immediate environment. Set him up with his radio, comb, soft bar, drink and his choice of music and then move away.
5. Slowly introduce activities and give him a break after each activity.
6. Don’t introduce a brand-new activity in the morning until he has successfully completed a familiar one.
7. He prefers hitting, shaking, playful activities over ones that require fine motor skills. He has limited tolerance for being assisted hand-over-hand.
8. If He is having a difficult time, respond to his request and then back away. Restrict your own movement. Sit at the table or behind him or in his bedroom.