# Stomp & Roar! DinoDay 19 June

# fundraising pack for nurseries and schools

Thank you for hosting DinoDay, you are ROAR-some!



# Hosting DinoDay

Have fun while raising awareness of disability and special educational needs by hosting DinoDay in your school or nursery – all while supporting Contact's vital services for families with disabled children.

#### Wear green (or a dino-themed outfit) for the day

Choose a day in June and ask the children to wear green or their favourite dinosaur outfit for a suggested donation of £1 per child.

You could also take them for a 19-minute stomp around your area!

#### Run a DinoDay activity

We've created a number of fun activities themed around dinosaurs and disability for you to run in your classroom or nursery, including:

- A video-based activity on sensory processing differences
- A dino-themed story with discussion topics
- Over 50 pages of dino-tastic colouring-in sheets
- Triceratops mask-making exercise using paper plates
- A list of inclusive story books to share in class

All of these activities are available to download at: <u>contact.org.uk/dinoday-school-activities</u>



### **About Contact**

We're Contact, the UK charity that supports families with children with disabilities and special educational needs, regardless of whether they have a formal diagnosis or not.



290,000

families turn to us every year for our advice and support

#### Our support services

We help families with all aspects of caring for a disabled child, such as money and benefits, education, health, social care, and preparing for adulthood.

We also offer free emotional and practical support to families via our website, helpline, Listening Ear service, workshops and family events, as well as dedicated support for families whose children are in hospital.

#### Our campaign work

We're also a campaigning charity! We advocate for families with disabled children and influence policy to help tackle the inequalities they face.

#### Why dinosaurs and why the number 19?

The inspiration behind DinoDay is a boy called Cameron Mathieson, who had Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy and sadly passed away after spending over two years in hospital.

At that time, Disability Living Allowance (DLA) was taken away from children who spent more than 12 weeks in hospital. With our support, the Mathieson family successfully challenged this unfair rule in a landmark case at the Supreme Court and since then, no other family with a child who spends long periods in hospital has been denied this essential financial support.

Cameron's birthday is on 19 June. He loved dinosaurs – or as he called them, Dowsers – and his favourite Dowser was a green triceratops called Troy!



# How we can help your school or nursery

#### Workshops for staff

Contact runs regular <u>workshops for practitioners</u> to help improve their confidence and skills supporting children with additional needs. Take a look at the <u>range of workshops we offer</u>.

#### Bespoke training

We have been commissioned by schools and early years providers to create tailored workshops and training materials to improve their team's skills in supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities. This includes bespoke workshops and webinars, whether pre-recorded or live, and with accompanying handouts. Get in touch to find out more at <a href="mailto:business.development@contact.org.uk">business.development@contact.org.uk</a>.

#### Information and advice

Our website has a <u>range of advice, tips and resources for practitioners</u> on key areas in which you can support disabled children and their families.

#### Sensory toys, specialist equipment and aids

We help schools and nurseries find transformative products for the children they support. Our non-profit shop, <u>Fledglings</u>, stocks a wide range of sensory equipment and toys, learning aids, and other helpful products designed for children with additional needs. Every penny raised through our Fledglings shop is reinvested into our vital support services for families.

#### Sign up to our newsletter

Get the latest updates and access to exclusive discounts on our training and workshops by signing up to our <u>newsletter for practitioners</u>.

## Useful information to share with parents

<u>Contact</u> is here to support all families with children with additional needs, regardless of their disability or medical condition.

Please signpost the families of disabled children with whom you work to us so they can find information, advice and support about any aspect of raising a child with additional needs – including on our website, which is packed with <u>information and advice for parent carers.</u>

#### Free one-to-one support and advice

We run a <u>free helpline</u> for parents and carers looking for advice on any aspect of caring for a disabled child, such as money and benefits, social services, behaviour concerns, education and healthcare. Parents and carers looking for practical or emotional support can also contact our <u>Listening Ear telephone support service</u>.

We also offer <u>dedicated 1:1 appointments</u> for parents and carers of autistic children in the Midlands and in London.

#### All-in-one Helpful Guide

Our free Helpful Guide is an all-in-one printed booklet packed with information, advice and tips for families of children with additional needs. Schools can <u>order a reference copy on our website</u> and then signpost parents to order their own copy.

Parents and practitioners can also download a digital copy of the guide.

#### Free workshops for parent carers

We run a range of free workshops and family events across the UK and online.

#### Get in touch

If you have any questions about hosting DinoDay in your nursery or school, please email our team on: <a href="mailto:fundraising@contact.org.uk">fundraising@contact.org.uk</a>

#### How to donate

If you've raised any money for DinoDay, please donate it to us via <u>our donation page</u> and select DinoDay as your reason for donating. Thank you so much for your support!



#### **Photos**

We would love to share photos of your nursery or school on our website and social media, so please send any to <a href="mailto:fundraising@contact.org.uk">fundraising@contact.org.uk</a> or tag us on social media. If you're not able to collect permissions, you could take a photo of the class holding up their colouring-in sheets in front of their faces or rocking their roar-some dinosaur masks!

#### Thank you for taking part in DinoDay!

Your support will help us reach even more families in the UK who turn to us for information, support and advice about raising a child with additional needs.





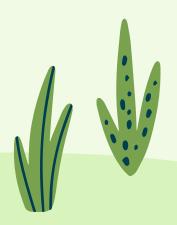


Please do get in touch if you have any questions about DinoDay via fundraising@contact.org.uk

If you've raised any money for Contact, then you can donate it to us via our donation page. Thank you!

We have a wide range of information, advice and support for practitioners and parent carers on our website: www.contact.org.uk

Freephone helpline for parent carers: 0808 808 3555 (9.30am-5pm, Monday-Friday)











Contact is a trading name of Contact a Family.

Charity registered in England and Wales (284912) and Scotland (SC039169). Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (1633333). VAT registration GB 749 3846 82.