



Nur Izzati Batrisya Shamidi (centre) having fun with her friends at the Ronald McDonald Sensory Room in Kuantan

McDonald's sensory room for special kids

KUANTAN: The newly-opened Ronald McDonald Sensory Room for autistic children at the National Autism Society of Malaysia (Nasom) here is offering a new method of learning for 23 special children at the centre.

The room, which caters for children with learning difficulties and is specially-equipped with multi-sensory equipment from the United Kingdom, is the latest attraction for the children.

Teruntum state assemblyman Chang Hong Seong, who opened the room at the Nasom centre in Jalan Alor Akar here yesterday, said he was glad to learn that the room, which adopts a special technology known as "Snoezelen", could help the children to stimulate their sense of touch, smell, sight and hearing.

He expressed his gratitude to the fast food chain, McDonald's, for helping to promote the teaching and rehabilitation of children with learning disabilities.

Nasom east coast region director Zulkifli Jaafar said the children could now be assured of a more advanced learning session that would also help them build their self-confidence over time.

Kuantan branch Nasom manager Zuairiyah Md Noor said the attractive features in the room would lure the children to spend more time there and learn new things from the equipment.

"The colourful light bulbs and the moving pictures on the walls seem to keep them glued to the room," she said.

One of the children, Muhd Akhtar Ismail, 11, earned praise from Chang and Zulkifli when he presented them with a painting each.

Chang said the boy had a special talent for colours and his artwork was impressive.

Nur Izzati Batrisya Shamidi, 6, who is 40cm tall, told Chang she loved the new sensory room as it allowed her to mingle with her friends and play games.