



Sensory room for spastic kids

It will provide a calm and serene environment for students at association

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Photos by ABDUL RAHMAN EMBONG

JOHOR BARU: The Johor Spastic Children's Association launched a special sensory room for their students here.

The special room called The Ronald McDonald Sensory Room is aimed at providing a calm and serene environment for these special needs students.

Ronald McDonald House Charities Malaysia (RMHC Malaysia) sponsored the facility that cost more than RM80,000.

RMHC Malaysia vice-president Daniel Chan explained that the room used a multi-sensory stimulating system from the United Kingdom which aroused the primary senses of sight, hearing, touch, smell and movement.

In his speech, Chan said the facility would help enhance the

association as Johor's leading provider of education and guidance for these special children.

"We have received positive feedback from parents and caregivers of the children who are benefiting from the facility at other centres nationwide," he said, adding that Johor was the eighth state where the facility was made available.

Johor Spastic Children's Association chairman Tunku Yan Nazihah Tunku Laxamana Nasir said the room was refurbished and specially equipped to provide the multi-sensory environment.

"This special room will assist in the learning process of our children with physical and learning disabilities," she said.

She said the generous support of RMHC Malaysia would go a long way towards helping the children with special needs to lead a better life.

"We are truly honoured to be the eighth recipient of the Sensory Room," she said, adding that the association still needed support from the private sector and corporate bodies to fund the association.

Tunku Yan said the association needed RM150,000 to repair the leaking roof of the association's hall as well as other maintenance work.

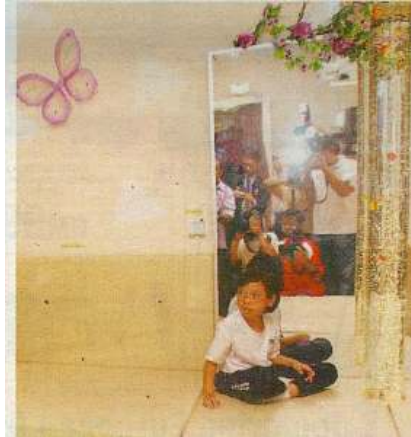
"By upgrading our hall, we will be able to increase the income of our hall, which is available for rent for any public events," she said.

Sultan of Johor Sultan Ibrahim's royal consort Raja Zarith Sofiah Almarhum Sultan Idris Shah, who launched the facility, hoped that the students would benefit from this new feature.

It would be a good learning tool for teachers to educate these special students here, she said.



Great help: A special student taking a closer look at some of the learning tools.



Time of need:
The students
looking at Raja
Zarith Sofiah
during the
launch.

»We are truly
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Room«

TUNKU YAN NAZIHAH TUNKU
LAXAMANA NASIR



Loving touch: Raja Zarith Sofiah (left) taking a closer look at some of the learning tools with one of the special students at launch of the Ronald McDonald Sensory Room at the Johor Spastic Children's Association.