Aphasia Book Club

Crashing Through

Chapter 14 & 15 Questions

Worksheet B

1. On page 238, it’s written that “One can image that it must feel overwhelming to the infant, this overflow of visual information he cannot even begin to sort”. This is also how Mike must have felt when he regained his vision. After your stroke, did you feel a similar way; overwhelmed? If so, how did you deal with being overwhelmed?

I wasn’t

overwhelmed at all I was very overwhelmed

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

2. On page 256, it is written that neural plasticity is “a neuron’s ability to change its representation”. What vision neurons, in Mike’s case, could have gone on to represent something else?

1. Faces
2. Depth
3. Objects
4. All of the above

3. On page 263, Mike says, “I think exploration is everything. I think that’s why I never grew up feeling like I couldn’t see”. Do you agree with Mike that exploration is crucial? How did Mike ‘explore’ while he was blind? Are there any ways you ‘explore’ the world, that help with your aphasia?

I don’t agree I totally agree

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

4. On page 265, Mike finds out that he doesn’t “possess the neural structure necessary for normal vision”. Afterwards, Mike wonders in the scientists made a mistake, and seems very upset. Mike has maintained so strong during the whole process. How do you think this will affect him going forward?

1. I think he will be defeated
2. I think he will give up
3. I think he will find a way to improve his vision
4. I don’t know
5. Other: