

## How to Use the PowerLink 2



The PowerLink 2 provides the person with a disability a way in which they can access mains powered devices via a single switch. The PowerLink 2 has four modes of operation:

**Direct** - hold down the switch to keep the appliance on. This is ideal for children learning cause and effect.

**Timed Seconds** - single switch activation turns on the appliance on for preset time up to 60 seconds. Ideal for quick activities, e.g. sharpening a pencil

**Timed Minutes** - single switch activation turns on the appliance on for preset time up to 60 minutes. Ideal for longer activities, e.g. using a blender to make a smoothie.

**Latch** - press the switch once to turn the appliance on, press it again to turn it off. Effective when you want an appliance, such as a lamp, to remain on for an extended length of time

There are many ways that devices such as the PowerLink 2 can be used to assist the child with a disability in joining in with activities within the family home, at child care, while attending early intervention, at preschool/school.

### Activities for Home

The child can participate in the following routines by helping you use these appliances:

#### *Personal care*

- A hairdryer to dry hair
- An electric toothbrush
- A foot-spa for a soothing foot massage

#### *Cooking*

- A popcorn popper
- A blender to make pancakes, cakes, biscuits or smoothies
- A food processor to chop nuts, cut vegetables, crush cookies
- An electric juicer to squeeze juice

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- An electric ice crusher to make now cones or cool drinks
- An ice-cream machine

#### *Cleaning*

- Turning the vacuum cleaner on or off

### **Activities for Preschool / School / Child Care**

The child can participate in the following activities whilst at preschool/child care:

#### *Cooking*

- Use a popcorn popper
- Use a blender to make pancakes, cakes, biscuits or smoothies

#### *Circle Time*

- Turn a tape/CD Player on or off
  - Play musical statues
  - Play musical chairs

#### *Art/Craft*

- Dry paintings using a fan
- Use an electric pencil sharpener

### **Activities for Play**

The child can further participate in play in the following ways

- Blow out birthday candles using a fan
- Blow bubbles using an electric bubble blower
- Plug in a fan and have it positioned to blow feathers, confetti, etc. onto a sheet of paper that is coated with glue.
- Operate a personal massager
- Turn on seasonal lights, like Christmas lights
- A fan and light both plugged in via a double adapter plug to create a 'mini' sensory room experience. Having shiny streamers, which shine in the light and blow in the air from the fan, can heighten the experience.
- Plug in disco light

Please refer to the Ablenet website for additional ideas for use or for additional information [www.ablenetinc.com](http://www.ablenetinc.com)

View the video on how to use the PowerLink 2

[http://www.ablenetinc.com/videos/how\\_to/powerlink\\_howto.mov](http://www.ablenetinc.com/videos/how_to/powerlink_howto.mov)

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