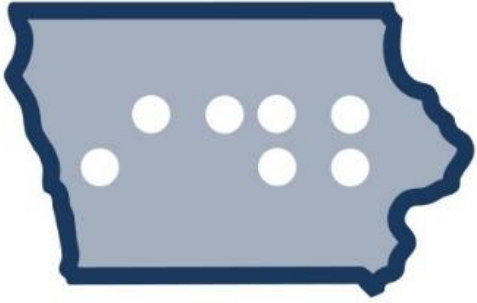


Accessibility within Public Libraries' Programs

IOWA LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT
DISABLED



**Iowa Department
for the Blind**



Presenting Today

Denise Bean

Youth Services Librarian

Certified Braille Transcriber through Library of
Congress

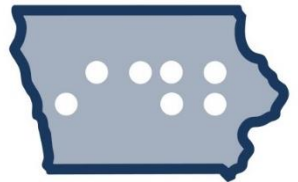


“Everyone accesses the world
in his/her own way.”

- Charlie's Mom

Agenda

- Accessibility – Acquire, Engage and Enjoy
- Printed Materials
- Alt Text in Social Media Platforms
- Physical Space
- Adaptive and Ready-Made Tools
- Program Communication Techniques
- Materials and Accessibility
- Activity Suggestions
- Other Great Recommended Resources



How to think about
Accessibility ... can only
begin by looking from
their point of view.

Are you ready?

The 3 Goals
of Accessibility
in Library
Programming

AQUIRE – the same
information

ENGAGE - in the same
interactions

ENJOY – the same
service

Printed Materials with Contrast

- Use of high contrast (White with black text is best!)

- Make sure there is a high contrast between the print and background

- Do not superimpose print on graphics

- Do not use color to convey information [If used, Navy or Royal Blue is best, however gray is not recommended.]

Specific Guidance for Large Print

Acceptable fonts: Verdana, Tahoma, Helvetica, Antique Olive, Comic Sans (when a contrasting font is needed).

In place of italicized use **bold print** or underscore.

A document is not actually “large print” unless it is in a font size 18 points or larger. Typically, the smallest options are,

- 18 points is used for the body of text,
- 20 points for subheadings
- 22 points for headings.

Print smaller than 18 points or larger than 12 points is known as “enlarged print.” It does not meet the requirements of large print.

TO SIGN UP SCAN QR CODE



Next, begin to receive a special box filled with books – audio or braille or large print – and goodies centered around a neighborhood theme!

- Young Patrons and families who opt for **audiobooks** will receive a cartridge with 10-20 books dedicated to the neighborhood of the month.
- Young patrons who choose to get **braille or large print** will receive 1-3 books. Braille and large print books will be mailed separately, apart from the *Story Box*.

Final step, simply return the cartridges and books when finished with them and keep the goodies for themselves.

“Books to borrow and bonus gifts to keep!”

Have any questions contact Denise Bean, Youth Services Librarian



Source: <https://cassiestephens.blogspot.com/2015/04/in-art-room-kindergarten-clay-birds.html>

Who doesn't enjoy the sounds of birds singing away on a warm sunny day? If you said yes to that question, you had better stop by our library because we have a fun evening planned for you!

Delight in creating a beautiful hanging spring bird brightly colored with fluorescent oil pastels accented with beads!

Remember to bring your favorite author quote and share it with others!

Date: May 13th

Time: 6 – 7:30pm

Activity: "Fluorescent Clay Songbirds!"

Where: 524 4th Street, Des Moines, IA 50309



Scan QR Code to sign up Today!

Example of Accessible QR Code

TRACE AROUND THE QR CODE WITH A TRACING WHEEL –EASY AS 1-2-3

The Book Bundles Program!

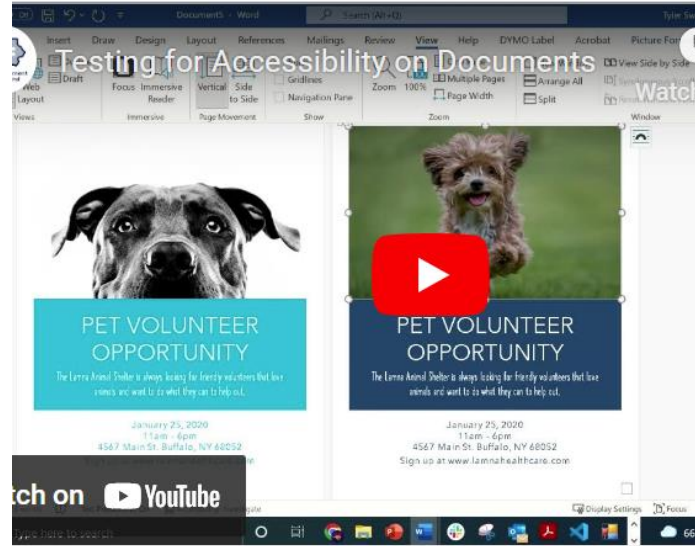
Scan the QR Code to learn more about this incredible program designed for schools.



Learn more about the incredible program designed for schools. Scan the QR code to learn more about this incredible program designed for schools.



- 🐾 Module 3: Introduction to Accessibility >
- ⚙️ Module 4: Introduction to Universal Design for Learning (UDL) >
- 📄 Module 5: Introduction to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) and Section 508 >
- 📄 Module 6: Document Accessibility >
- 📄 Module 7: Introduction to Screen Readers >
- ✓ Module 8: Testing for Accessibility >



Accessibility 101 for Iowa's Workforce System

Why use Alt Text in Social Media Platforms?

To convey the content of the image to users who may not be able to see it.

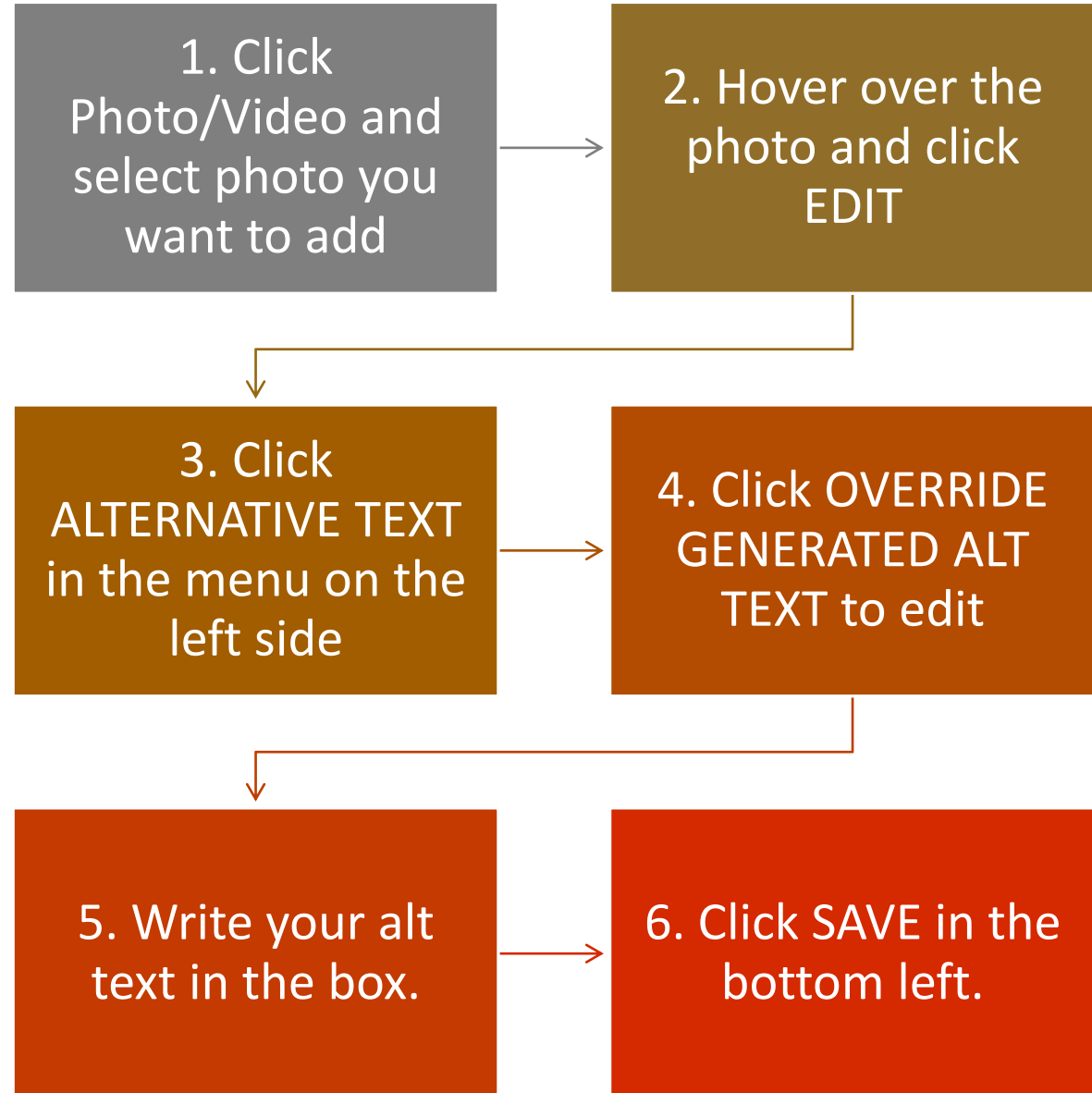
Backup resource if image fails to load.

Supports Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), to ensure content is accessible to all users, regardless of their abilities.

Provides additional information and context, making content more informative.



Alt Text and Facebook



Multiple Formats



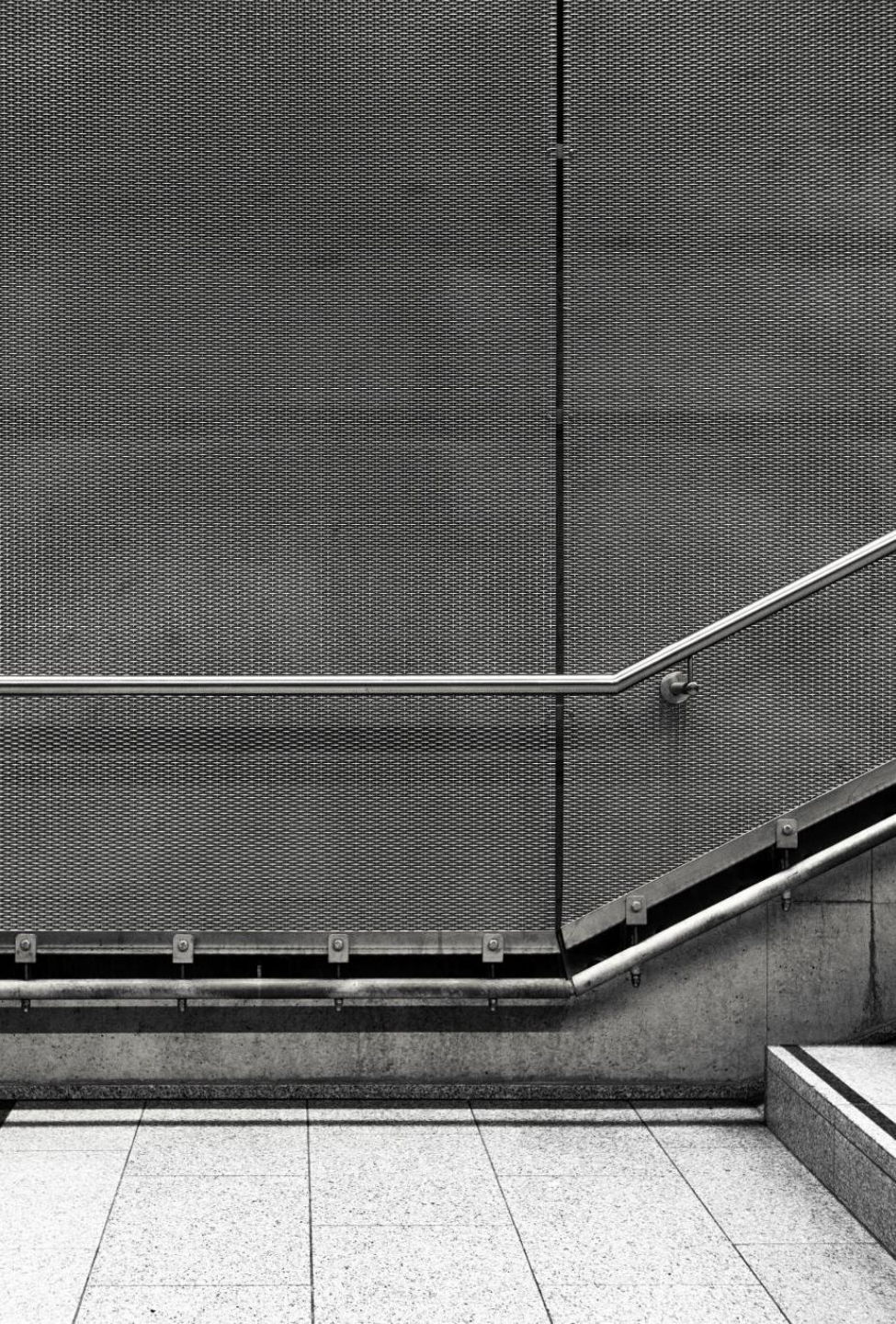
Braille



Large Print



Audio



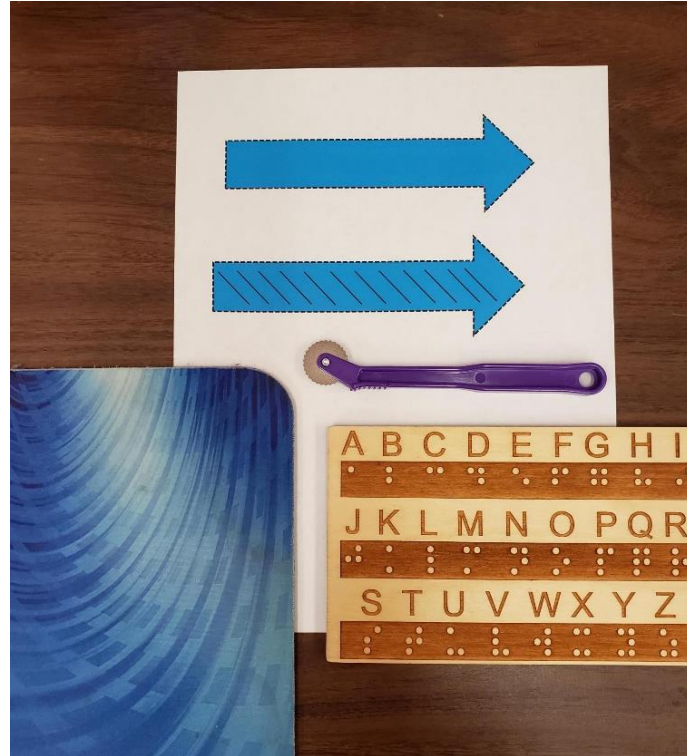
Physical Space

Educate Staff on Accessibility

Provide clear and well-lit pathways

Seating is also important, when spacing chairs keep in mind the 32 inches rule.

Add Audio and Tactile Cues



Example of a “Tactile Cue”



“Audio and Tactile”
cues added, now
this has been
made accessible!

Talking Tiles



You can't *get ready* for accommodations; however, you must *be ready* from the start.

“Simple changes can make ALL the difference!”

Adaptive and Ready-Made Tools





Simple Ways to Adapt that Work!

Pool Noodles

Plastic Golf Balls

Foam Hair Curlers

Velcro

Masking Tape and Tissue Paper

Aluminum Foil



Changing the Shape of Things!

STEP 1: Place broken crayons into a silicone tray or muffin tin.

STEP 2: Heat oven at 250 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes.

STEP: Let cool

“Adapted crayon shape offers an easier way to grip for children who struggle with dexterity and finger strength.”

Benefit – Allows for independence and confidence building.



Get a Grip

Loop Scissors – Can be used for left- or right-hand users. Reopens after each cut. Better control for children with dexterity strength.

Rulers with Handle - Easier grip for guiding offering better control of movement.



Simple fix to make it Stick

Cut no-slip drawer liner and place on surfaces to provide more stickability for items such as: plates: bowls and activity materials from moving out of place.

BONUS - Also makes for great backing when using a tracing wheel for tactile lines on coloring pages.





3D Fabric Paint



Versatility

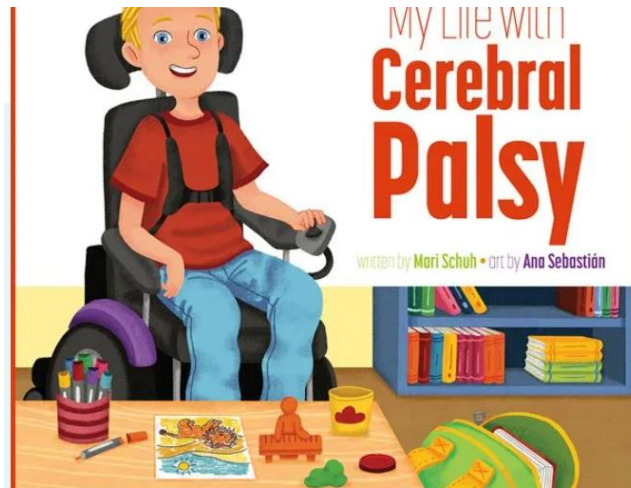
Clothes Pin – Use as a handle for items that are difficult to hold.

Container 2oz – Easier to grip.

Jumbo Children's Easy Grip Brush Set



Program Communication Techniques



Charlie's Story
that taught me
how to become
a better Youth
Librarian...

A few words of Advice from Charlie's Mom...

Asking simple questions with yes/no/good or other one word type answers.

Having questions shared ahead of time for those who need time to type out or for translation.

Teaching others that the 'speaker' may take longer to respond, so to be patient.

Have the same question each week. ie tell us something special about your day. Or What would you like to share with the group? - then the kids are already expecting how to answer and are prepared.

Charlie's point of view on what works best for him

Group Chat

'Taking turns' to speak.

General question being the same each week with theme

Discovering
Library
Programming
Tips for Non-
Verbal Children

Add True/False Questions during programming, when asking for the children to answer, ADAPT, and ask them to show 1 finger for true and 2 fingers for false.

This also works great for Multiple Choice questions.

Action moves mixed with vocal answers works great for everyone.

We all know that Kids love questions!

How to read a story for all audiences

- BEFORE reading each page DESCRIBE the pictures. [Start with the people or characters on the page, setting and don't forget to offer picture clues.]
- If props or visual aids are used, hands on is a must.
- Slow down and take your time.
- Time for comparison.
- Use Vocal Expression.
- Names are important and why...

Materials and Accessibility



5 Simple Suggestions

Ask open ended questions.

If the group is shy, ask true or false questions.

Instead of pointing to call on a raised hand, say their name, if you do not know their name, ask.

Include up to 1-3 words for description.

Don't forget about adding description using the 5 senses.

The World of Wikki Stix!

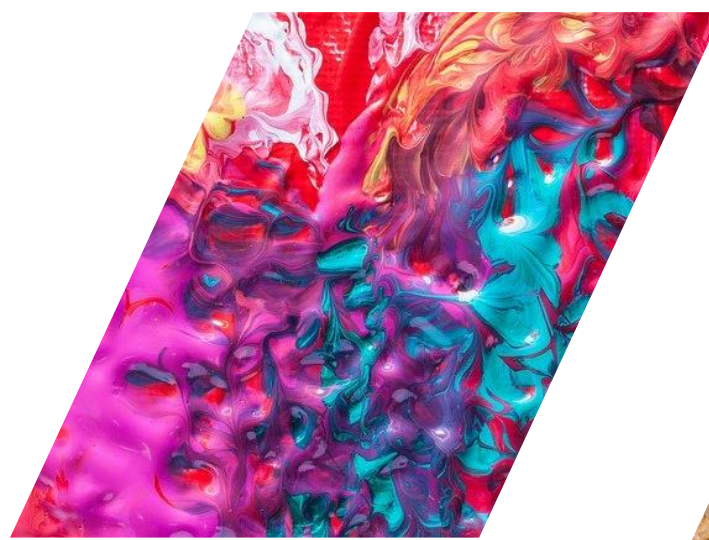
1. Measuring guide
2. Quick fix for adding lead lines
3. Create shapes of animals, birds or plants
4. Coloring within Lines
5. Design a small habitat



Adding a Dash of Scent and Color!

1. Kool-Aid Watercolors.
2. Kool-Aid mixed with Salt Dough.
3. Kool-Aid added to rice and then create an Art canvas of scented texture and color!
5. Sock filled with Kool-Aid scented rice, such as “Sock Snowman craft.”





TEXTURES!



Paper of all Types

- Thick paper is key
- Paper Layering
- Textured paper
- Card stock preferably
- Recycled, old newspaper
- Cardboard is paper too



Activity Suggestions

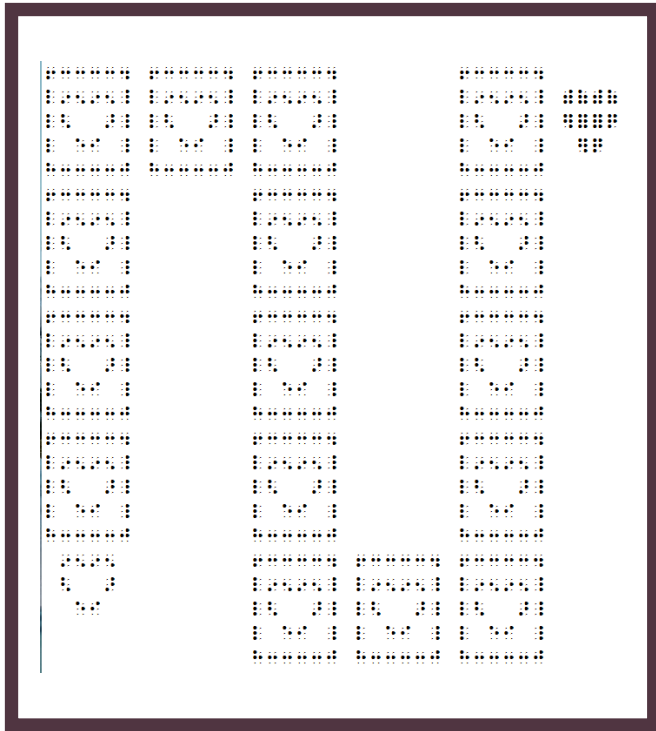


Activity – Mystery Tactile Footprint

Program Prep – Take a ball of clay and form into a disc, flatten top and carve out 1 of the 5 footprint images into the top of the clay

Program - Each child is given a tactile footprint disc. Their job is to find out the name and facts about their tactile footprint.

Take time to share results with others!



Activity

Games with Accessibility

Foam Cube Dice

Tulip Metallic Puffy Paint

Fabric Textured raised dots

Game board raised tactile line – Tracing Wheel



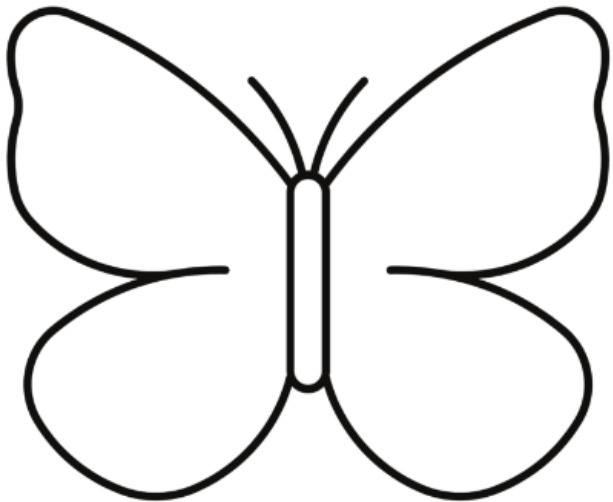
Activity

Puzzle Pieces, what a Great Idea!

Create Collage Art

Add different textures to each piece, then put the puzzle together.

With a spur wheel, trace around an image, then add miscellaneous puzzle pieces within the tactile lines.



Activity Station

Accessible Origami

Origami Stations

Stations 1: Provide Origami paper and laminated directions.

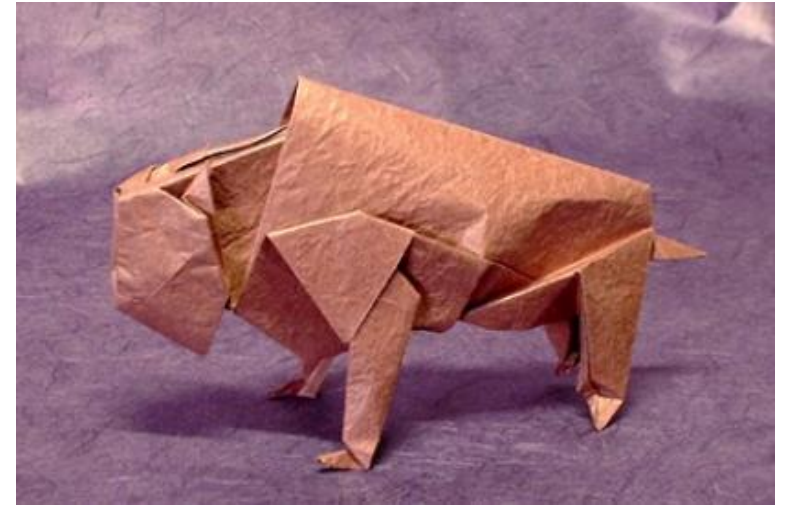
Station 2: Create animals, flowers and trees found on the prairie. This program would be for all ages!

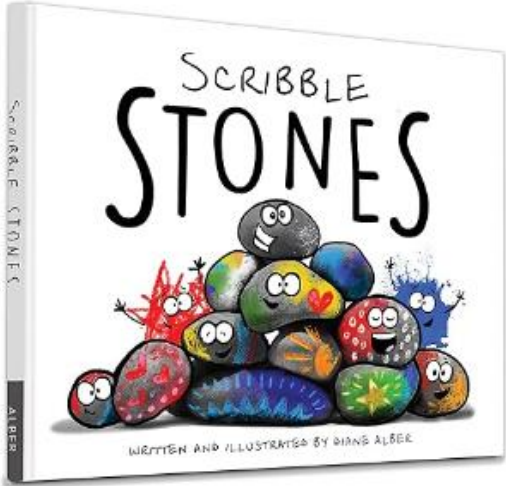
Setup: Offer directions in large print and pre-fold paper ahead of time.

Benefits: Focus, following directions, and turning one-dimensional into three-dimensional.

“Origami is an art form that can be enjoyed by people with a variety of different abilities.”

[Check out additional ideas from National Braille Press.](#)





Activity with Stem

Rock

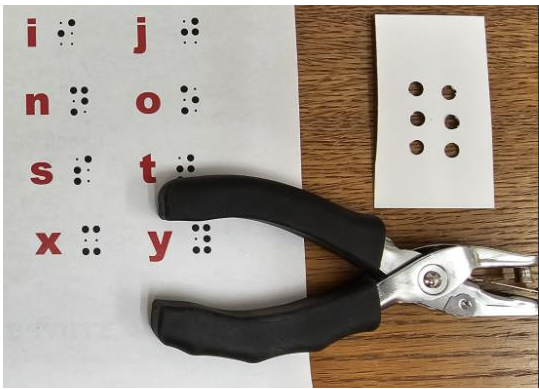
Gems

Paints

Paper Punch

Thick paper

Braille Alphabet Code





ACTIVITY

Turn a coloring page into a tactile page!

Why? It makes the experience more memorable.

SETS BOUNDRIES

Provides support to young library patrons just learning how to explore and draw.



Other Great
Recommended
Resources

<https://www.pathstoliteracy.org/resource-topic/arts-and-crafts/>

- Explore Arts and Crafts
- Crafting Concepts
- Seasonal Activities and Ideas



Searching for ideas, check out a website!



Accessible Story Box

Basic Concepts Hands-On Activities

TACTILE CARDS

Ask – What, when, where, who questions

PICTURE SYMBOLS

Source: Paths to Literacy



Planting a RAINBOW by Lois Ehlert.



national:braille
press



The Great Expectations

FREE ACCESSIBLE ACTIVITIES FOR
EACH BOOK SERIES

[Visit the Great Expectations site](#)



“One Dimensional into Three Dimensional”

- print SPRING
- PRINT CHRISTMAS
- print SUMMER
- print AUTUMN
- print HALLOWEEN
- print BACK TO SCHOOL
- print VALENTINE'S DAY
- print Baba MARTA
- print MOTHER'S DAY
- print ANIMALS



Educational Insight Sensory Squares Insight Sensory Squares

Include different textures featuring the animals found on the prairie.

Create theme bags.

Pull a square or item, then discuss 3 fun facts.

Matching

Making Comparisons

Accessible StoryWalk and Story Trails



Making your StoryWalk and Story Trails Accessible!

This gorgeous setting is provided by The Cedar Falls Public Library, as example of how braille can successfully be added to the pages of your StoryWalk.



Start by visiting our blog at StoryWalks and Story Trails
<https://iowalibrary.blog/resources-2/storywalks-and-story-trails/>

“When Story
Time Comes
to You”

Outreach Program offered by the
Iowa Library for the Blind and Print
Disabled, Youth Services Librarian.

Story Time with “Bryson the Brave Bison”

Triangle shaped crayons [accessible design]

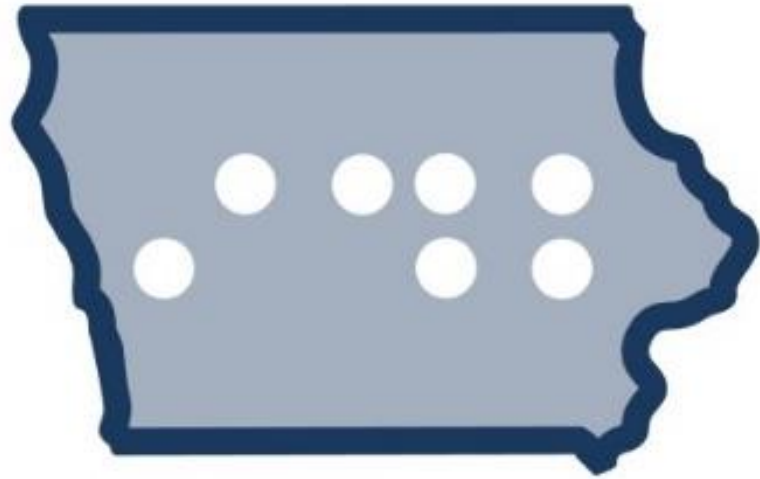
Provide a 3D item that ties into the story [stuffed animals]

Craft activity includes:

Tactile outline of a Bison, faux fur and crayons

Special note: A spur wheel is a quick fix for adding tactile lines to any flat surface! One of my favorite tools for making a simple outline accessible!





**Iowa Department
for the Blind**

Resources for Public Communities

Turning the Pages Blog

iowalibrary.blog

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/IDBOnline>

Find us on Facebook & Twitter

Thank you!

Denise Bean, *Youth Services
Librarian, Braille Transcriber*
denise.bean@blind.state.ia.us

Please visit us at lowalibrary.blog