


Braille 101

- 2021 PRESCHOOL CONFERENCE
- WCBVI-OUTREACH
- CINDY COLLINS
- TEACHER OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALIST

1

The Beginning of Braille



1824

Invented by Louis Braille in 1824

- French
- 15 years old
- Blind
- Also invented music braille code

Accepted as official code 1854, two years after his death

1854

2

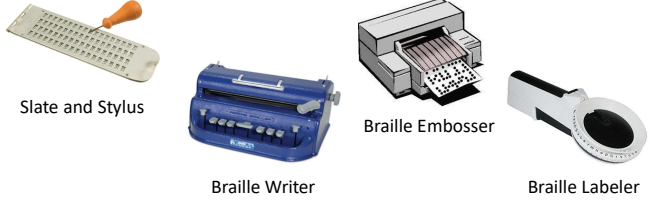
Braille is Important!



- Literacy: Reading and Writing!
- Education
- Independence
- Job skills
- Communication
- Awareness of world
- Identification of objects and locations

3

Making Braille



Slate and Stylus

Braille Writer

Braille Embosser

Braille Labeler

4

The Latest Technology



Refreshabraille



Refreshable Braille Display

5

Braille Codes

English Braille was the accepted code for ~200 years.

UEB became the official Braille code that all English-speaking countries use. (adopted in the U.S. in 2016).

6

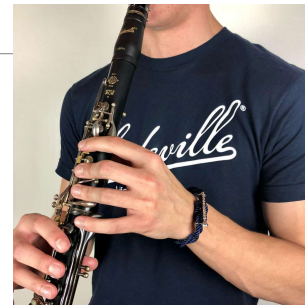
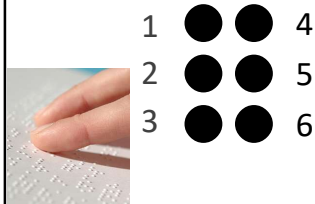
Why UEB?



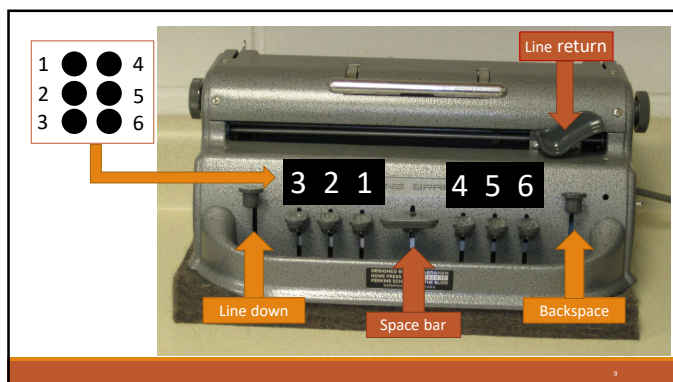
- **Globalization:** Allows all English-speaking countries to share Braille materials.
- **Modern Technology:** Provides a one-to-one correspondence of print and Braille symbols.
- **Flexibility:** Allows for systematic future adaptation.

7

The Braille Cell

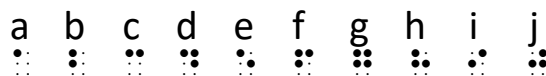


8



9

The First Ten Letters



10

Practice



c a b



b a g

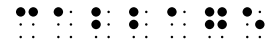


11

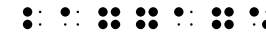
Practice



c a b b a g e



b a g g a g e



12

The Next Ten Letters

a b c d e f g h i j

k l m n o p q r s t

Just add one dot

13

Practice

a b c d e f g h i j

k l m n o p q r s t

m o p p o o p

14

Practice

a b c d e f g h i j

k l m n o p q r s t

k i t e m i t t e n s

15

The Last Six Letters

a b c d e f g h i j

u v x y z w

Just add 2 dots

Exception!

Can you guess why?

16

Practice

a b c d e f g h i j

k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

w a x f u z z y

17

Numbers

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 0

Numeric indicator
used once in front of a string of numbers

18

Capital Indicator

Cat

19

Punctuation

Period ⠠	Quotation marks
Comma ⠂	Opening ⠄
Question mark ⠠	Closing ⠄
Exclamation mark ⠠	Apostrophe ⠂
	Hyphen ⠄

20

Contractions in General

- Save space and time
- Makes reading easier
- Are grouped according to similarities
- May represent whole words, part words, or both
- May use one or more cells

21

Alphabetic Wordsigns

⠠ = but	⠠ = have	⠠ = people	⠠ = very
⠠ = can	⠠ = just	⠠ = quite	⠠ = will
⠠ = do	⠠ = knowledge	⠠ = rather	⠠ = it
⠠ = every	⠠ = like	⠠ = so	⠠ = you
⠠ = from	⠠ = more	⠠ = that	⠠ = as
⠠ = go	⠠ = not	⠠ = us	

22

Test Your Knowledge

The chocolates are delicious!

Some kids hate asparagus.

Are you done yet?

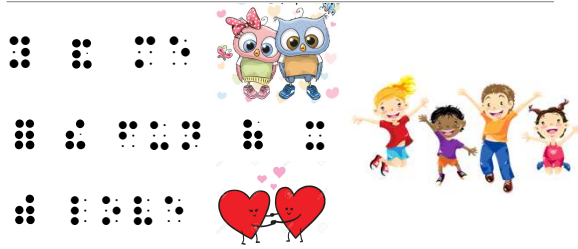
23

Strong Contractions

p	q	r	s	t	
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	
⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	
↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	
and	for	of	the	with	

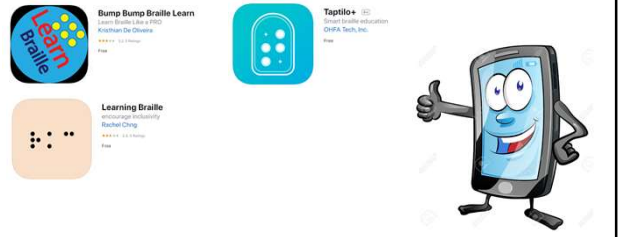
24

Examples



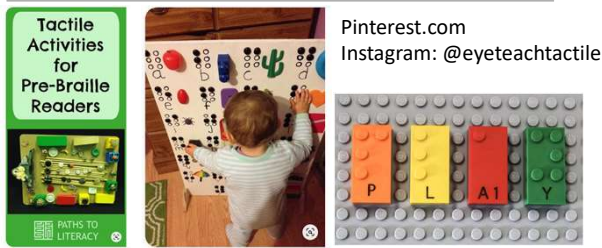
25

Apps For Parents



26

Fun Home Activities



27

Fun Game



28

Resources

Local Resources

- ✓ Wisc. Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (WCBVI) library
- ✓ Audio and Braille Literacy Enhancement (ABLE)
- ✓ Braille Library and Transcribing Services (BLTS)
- ✓ **Wisconsin Braille (WisBrl)**
- ✓ Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library

29

30

Wisconsin Braille (WisBrl)



<https://www.wisbrl.org/>

Mission:
The mission of Wisconsin Braille is to advance communication and coordinate the efforts of all persons concerned with the availability, quality, and distribution of brailled materials in the state of Wisconsin.

Annual Book Project:
Free Braille books for libraries, students, schools, parents, and families.

Membership fee:
\$10/year.



31

National Resources


- National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
- Seedlings
- National Braille Press
- American Action Fund
- American Printing House for the Blind
- The Braille Institute of America
- Braille International
- Bookshare
- Many others ...

32

Braillewriters for Loan

Your child qualifies for a braillewriter at home through American Printing House for the Blind (APH) if there is:

- ≤ 20/200 acuity in the better eye with correction
- Visual field of 50 degrees or less in better eye
- Condition that is permanent and irremediable
- Cortical visual impairment
- Degenerative condition



33

Braillewriters for Loan

Dawn Soto, Outreach Director
dawn.soto@wcbvi.k12.wi.us
608-758-6145

Tricia Weis, Birth to Six Consultant
tricia.weis@wcbvi.k12.wi.us
608-758-6150

Alisha Ragainis, School Age Consultant/LV Therapist
alisha.ragainis@wcbvi.k12.wi.us
608-758-6151

34

Learning More

- Hadley School for the Blind
- National Federation of the Blind
- American Printing House for the Blind

35

Books for Parents



36

Websites



www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us



www.tsbvi.edu



For students who are blind or visually impaired

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<https://www.pathstoliteracy.org/>



<http://www.wonderbaby.org/>

37



38