



Tactile Literacy for Functional Academics

Annie Stockton, annie.stockton@wssb.wa.gov

Kirsten Dlugo, kirsten.dlugo@wssb.wa.gov

Kat Taplin, ktaplin@nwresd.k12.wa.or.us

Teachers of Blind and Low Vision Learners from WSSB Outreach Access Services

1. [Comprehensive Literacy for All](#)
2. [Turning on Touch Thinking](#)
 - a. Created by Donna McNear (presented at GITWL 2019)
 - b. The student works on learning tactile discrimination skills of objects to braille symbols.
 - c. The approach is a sorting strategy that is repetitive.
 - d. Limited language should be used so the student is learning with their hands and fingers.
3. [I-AM-ABLE](#)
4. [PenFriend](#)
 - a. The PenFriend 3 is an audio labeling tool.
 - b. [Paths to Literacy- Using the Pen Friend to Motivate Beginning Braille Readers Who Have Multiple Disabilities](#)
 - c. [APH All Aboard! The Sight Word Activity Express](#) was a great set of sight word magnets to use with the PenFriend.
5. [Califone Card Master](#)
 - a. The Califone Card Master is an older tool you can find on eBay or possibly in a closet of a school.
 - b.
6. [Edmark Reading Program](#)
 - a. All print materials can be adapted into braille and/or tactile symbols.
 - b. Adapted tactile materials allow a student to participate with their peers using the same reading program.
7. [Echo Dot](#)
 - a. Allows a student to ask Alexa what a word is if they can identify the letters but don't recognize the word.
 - b. It could also be used to find out more information about reading words.
8. [Braille Legos](#)
9. Tactile Systems



- a. At several Getting in Touch with Literacy (GITWL) conferences there have been presenters that talked about setting up tactile systems for literacy.
- b. Brandi Trom-Anderson from Bismark Public Schools gave great examples of a system for her student Copper at GITWL 2023.
- c. There is another example on Paths to Literacy: ["Adian's Story: An Alternative Path to Braille and Literacy"](#)