Visual Arts for the Visually Impaired:
Tactile Drawing Tools
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3-4:00 PM

This broadcast will be recorded.

Presented by
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Developed for
Texas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired
Outreach Programs
Outreach Programs Events Update:
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Link to enter room: [http://tsbvi.adobeconnect.com/visual-arts/](http://tsbvi.adobeconnect.com/visual-arts/)
Visual Arts for the Visually Impaired:
Tactile Drawing Tools
Presented by Scott Baltisberger, Consultant
Texas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired Outreach Programs

Agenda
• Rationale for teaching drawing to students who are blind
• Considerations for materials
• Positive image tools
• Negative image tools
• Resources

Drawing: When and Why?

Art Class: Special areas and electives
• Access to the full curriculum
• Self-determination

Early Elementary Classroom
• Full inclusion in learning activities
• Integration with peers
• Developmental skills and concepts

Early elementary worksheets
(Image: Photos of three different elementary-level worksheets)

What does drawing teach?

Hand Skills
• Strength
• Fine motor
• Coordination

Concepts
• Spatial Relationships
• Symbolic representation

Creativity and Flexibility
Considerations for tactile drawing

- Positive or reverse image
- Portability/ease of use
- Versatility
- Price

Tools to create a positive image

**APH Draftsman**
(Image: Photo of the APH Draftsman drawing board)

**Intact Sketchpad**
(Image: Photo of the Intact Sketchpad drawing board)

**Sensational Blackboard**
(Image: Photo of the Sensational Blackboard drawing board)

**Sewell Raised Line Drawing Kit**
(Image: Photo of the Sewell Raised Line Drawing Kit)

**Tactipad**
(Image: Photo of the Tactipad drawing board)

**Swail Dot Inverter**
(Image: Photo of the Swail Dot Inverter laying on a rubber mat)

**Quick Draw Paper**
(Image: Photo of the a package of APH Quick Draw Paper)

Tools to create a negative image

**Raised Line Drawing Board**
(Image: Photo of the Raised Line drawing board)

**Tactile Graphics Kit**
(Image: Photo of the box of the Tactile Graphics Kit)

**Tactile Graphics Kit - tools**
(Image: Photo of the individual tools of the Tactile Graphics Kit)

**Tracing Wheel**
(Image: Photo of a tracing wheel laying on a rubber mat)

**Aluminum Foil**
(Image: Photo of a sheet of aluminum foil)
Perkins Brailler
(Image: Photo of a Perkins Brailler)

Some Resources

Art Beyond Sight
(Image: Photo of the book Art Beyond Sight)

Learn to Draw, Draw to Learn
(Image: Photo of the book Learn to Draw, Draw to Learn)

Tactile Graphics
(Image: Photo of the book Tactile Graphics)

Drawing and the Blind
(Image: Photo of the book Drawing and the Blind)

Drawing with Your Perkins Brailler
(Image: Photo of the book Drawing with Your Perkins Brailler)

So What About Drawing?
(Image: Photo of the book So What About Drawing?)

Contact Info

• If you would like to be included in group emails on the topic of arts instruction, indicate this in the chat or send your information to:
• baltisbergers@tsbvi.edu
• Do you have information to share?
• Theory to Practice School Consultation?
Resources for Tactile Drawing and Art

Books

Drawing with Your Perkins Brailler
• Kim Charlson
• Perkins School for the Blind
• Instructions for creating 36 different braille pictures. Includes examples of the finished drawings.

Art Beyond Sight
• Edited by Elisabeth Salzhauer Axel and Nina Sobol Levent
• American Foundation for the Blind
• Thick book with extensive sections on theory and research, adaptations for art appreciation and strategies for effective art techniques for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Tactile Graphics
• Polly K. Edman
• American Foundation for the Blind
• Extensive information regarding materials and techniques for creating various types of tactile graphics, including pictures.

Drawing and the Blind
• John M. Kennedy
• Yale University Press
• Scholarly work that compares and contrasts visual and tactile perception and how these are expressed through the medium of drawing.

Learn to Draw, Draw to Learn (in development)
• Mike Coleman
• intact
• Book of lessons that specifically address learning to create images using a tactile drawing board.

Time for Art
• Gail Cawley Showalter
• American Printing House for the Blind
• Variety of art projects adapted for students with visual impairments. Geared toward the elementary level.
Online

So What About Drawing?

- Marie Porter
- The Guild for the Blind
- [http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/vi&multi/MariePorter.pdf](http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/vi&multi/MariePorter.pdf)
- Instructions for creating a large variety of drawings using the Perkins Brailler.

Simple Drawings with Your Perkins Brailler

- Adam Palmer
- Blind How
- [http://blindhow.com/posts/366#content](http://blindhow.com/posts/366#content)
- Instructions for drawing with the brailler.

Braille Drawings

- Perkins School for the Blind
- Small number of instructions for drawing with the brailler. Seems this was intended to be an ongoing project with people submitting ideas but did not result in a great number of entries.

Guidelines and Standards for Tactile Graphics

- Braille Authority of North America
- [http://www.brailleauthority.org/tg/](http://www.brailleauthority.org/tg/)
- Overview of tactile graphics standards. This can be helpful not only in creating graphics but in considering how to teach production of graphics.
Tactile Drawing Tools

Draftware

American Printing House for the Blind
https://shop.aph.org/
$196.00

Figure 1: Photo of Draftware tactile drawing board

Intact Sketchpad

National Federation of the Blind
https://ecommerce.nfb.org
$125.00

Figure 2: Photo of Intact tactile drawing board

Sensational Blackboard

Sensational Books
http://www.sensationalbooks.com/
$49.95 (also the "Mini" for $29.95)

Figure 3: Photo of Sensational Blackboard drawing board

Sewn Raised Line Drawing Kit

Maxiaids
https://www.maxiaids.com/
$35.00

Figure 4: Photo of Sewn Raised Line drawing kit

Tactipad

Irie AT
https://irie-at.com/
$499.00 (software is an additional $295.00)

Figure 5: Photo of Tactipad drawing board
Swail Dot Inverter

American Printing House for the Blind
https://shop.aph.org
$45.00

Figure 6: Photo of Swail Dot Inverter on Rubber Mat

Quick Draw Paper

American Printing House for the Blind
https://shop.aph.org
$35.00 for 10 sheets

Figure 7: Photo of a package of Quick Draw Paper

Raised Line Drawing Board

Braille Super Store
http://www.braillebookstore.com
$14.95

Figure 8: Photo of Raised Line drawing board

Tactile Graphics Kit

American Printing House for the Blind
https://shop.aph.org
$284.00

Figure 9: Photo of the Tactile Graphics Kit

Rubber Pad

American Printing House for the Blind
https://shop.aph.org
$11.00

Figure 10: Photo of the rubber pad

Tactile Drawing Film

American Printing House for the Blind
https://shop.aph.org
$7.00 for 25 sheets

Figure 11: Photo of a package of tactile drawing film
Polyester Film Drawing Sheets

Maxiaids
https://www.maxiaids.com
$6.99 for 50 sheets

Figure 12: Photo of polyester film drawing sheets

EZ Write and Draw Aluminum Foil Sheets

Maxiaids
https://www.maxiaids.com
$6.95 for 25 sheets

Figure 13: Photo of aluminum foil sheets

Perkins Brailler

American Printing House for the Blind
https://shop.aph.org
$730.00 (available on quota funds)

Figure 14: Photo of the Perkins Brailler

This project is supported by the U.S. Department of Education, Special Education Program (OSEP). Opinions expressed here are the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the Department of Education.

Figure 15: IDEAs That Work logo and OSEP disclaimer

Figure 16: The Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired logo