

## Paths to Literacy

Paths to Literacy is an online Community of Practice for sharing strategies, resources, and discussing all aspects of literacy for learners who are blind or visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities or deafblindness.

This collaborative project between Perkins School for the Blind and Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired has welcomed more than 100,000 people since April 2012.

The website features lots of practical hands-on strategies for the classroom or home, ranging from emergent literacy to braille, and activities for learners who have multiple disabilities and resources using dual media. In addition, research, technology, new books, instructional materials, and other resources are frequently shared. Paths to Literacy offers a rich, creative practical resource to delve into bringing together good practice and innovative ideas from professionals and parents. Any professional or parent can share their idea – small simple ideas and more detailed posts are equally welcome. In addition to the website of Pinterest, Facebook, and Twitter.

## Blogs

Blog posts are written by speech therapists, parents, teachers of children with vision impairment, teachers and teacher trainers from four different countries. The bloggers' content offers a wide perspective, from early childhood, technology for braille readers, multiple disabilities through to orientation and mobility. Here are some examples of blog posts:

**Itsy bitsy spider: circle time braille kit:** A wealth of creative cross-curricular ideas to support literacy, science and numeracy at the pre-braille stage of development. Includes detailed session outline, lists of materials required, suggested iPad apps and computer games, tactile approaches and concepts.

**How to select an iPad apps for students with visual impairments:** a helpful checklist to guide app selection. Includes useful points for selecting a storybook app such as visual clarity, placement of print, clarity of images, plus identifies the possible skills for development while using apps, for example vocabulary development, spelling, concept building, imagination, life skills discussion, social skills development, prediction, fine motor skills and visual skills.

## Resources

Visit [pathstoliteracy.org](http://pathstoliteracy.org) to explore or register to receive weekly blogs

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