

Let's play

Toys and play ideas for young children with vision impairment

R N I B

See differently



Updated for 2019



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Introduction

Whether you are a parent, teacher or carer of a child with vision impairment this play guide aims to get you started creating fun-filled playtimes for your child to develop and explore their senses.

All children love to play, but vision is just one way to explore and learn about the world. The toys in this guide have been specially selected by parents, children and play experts for their tactile, sound, scented, and visually stimulating play potential.

You will also find handy tips and ideas from other parents and carers on choosing toys, creating play environments, creative activities and further resources to help you support your child as they grow, learn, have fun, make friends and find out about the world around them.



Choosing toys

“Sit back and observe how your child plays with objects. Your child will teach you all you need to know. You will both become experts!”

All children have different play interests, styles, abilities and levels of useful vision. What works for one child may not be right for another. Celebrate your child as an individual, inquisitive, strong and capable learner. Together you can become experts in multi-sensory play.

The huge range of products available in high street toy stores can feel overwhelming, especially when you are looking for toys with added play benefits for children with vision impairment. We have listed lots of toys in this guide but you are certain to find more.



When choosing toys look out for:

- Good colour and tone contrast
- Lettering that is bold and clear
- Good reflection of light or fluorescent elements
- Toys which encourage children to use their eyes to follow an object
- Toys which encourage development of hand-eye co-ordination and/or fine motor control, using small finger movements
- Interesting textures and tactile variety – some toys which look like they offer different textures, actually feel similar, like felt and velvet – test for yourself to see if the textures really feel different
- A scented feature
- Switches that are recognisable by touch such as on or off and click when operated
- Toys which encourage awareness of cause and effect through touch – “when I press here, something happens”
- Toys which make a sound or other cue to an action having occurred
- Equipment and toys which encourage physical movement, running or jumping, or reaching and stretching for children with more complex needs.

“We did lots of trial and error. Rather than buying toys, we borrowed from our local toy library to find out which ones my son really enjoyed.”

Creating play environments

At home

The right environment is key to a happy playtime.

Some children with a vision impairment may not feel confident to explore, others may be hungry for adventure. If you have space, set up a well lit corner or nook that is theirs to explore. Incorporate good lighting, perhaps near a window, space for movement and a range of stimulating activities. Rotate toys so there is always something new to explore.

Out and about

All children benefit from socialising with others. For some children with vision impairment, noisy or busy playgroups may be overwhelming whilst others love to dive in with the rough and tumble. When choosing a playgroup to attend, observe and consider:

- **Lighting conditions** – What does your child like? Some children with vision impairment prefer natural daylight so look for outside playgroups or those with large windows. Others may find glare off-putting and need more subdued lighting. Observe your child in different situations. Ask the playgroup to make the adaptations your child needs.
- **Noise and motion** – If your child is sensitive to noise and lots of movement around them, seek small groups, or attend at the beginning or end when numbers of other busy children may be fewer.



“My son seemed really cranky at busy playgroups until I realised that the fast movement of other children around him was visually overwhelming him. Then we started going to a rhyme time where he was able to sit on my lap and the activity was gentler and more focused than rushing around free play.”

What does your child need to play well?

- All children need opportunities to experience challenge, risk and excitement in a way that is appropriate for them.
- Children need to be alert to play and enjoy new things. If they are tired or unwell choose less demanding or familiar activities.
- Children depend on a sensitive play partner to encourage, support and extend their play with objects – and to know when to withdraw!
- Talk to your specialist teacher for children with vision impairment about colour, contrast, lighting and using plain backgrounds. Try to find out if your child sees better on one side, or if objects should be presented in a particular position.
- Make sure that your child is in the most suitable position to use their hands and eyes to best advantage, whether seated, standing or lying down.
- Keep toys within easy reach so that your child's movements can create an effect. For example, suspend toys above children lying down, or use a container to keep objects together on a table top.
- If toys roll out of reach, try to take your child to the toy, rather than bringing the toy back to your child.

- Allow your child to explore objects with their mouth and feet, as well as encouraging the use of hands.
- Use language that is simple, short, and descriptive and relate to what your child is doing.
- If your child has repeated behaviours, try to develop them into a more creative activity.



Play potential everywhere

Play doesn't always have to involve toys. Your home is full of interesting objects your child will enjoy discovering. Let your child explore around the house using touch, taste, sound, smells and any useful vision.

A wooden spoon and an upturned saucepan is a drum, a cardboard box can be a car, house or rocket. Create a treasure basket of interesting shapes and textures. Place a range of objects, such as keys, an orange, a piece of ribbon into a basket or container and let your children explore.

"My daughter and her sighted siblings love tactile snap. I put a range of fabrics and papers, all with different tactile surfaces, into a bag and they have to pick out the pairs with the same texture."

Let's grow!

Sow, grow and water flowers, herbs and vegetables in the garden or a window box. Explore the touch and smell of soil and sprinkling water drops tipping from the watering-can spout.

Listen to the sound of leaves crunching under feet. Feel the smoothness of conkers, the tickle of a ladybird scurrying across your palm. Sniff the smells of freshly cut grass or autumn leaves.

For more tips on creating opportunities for outdoor play see rnib.org.uk/messy



Bake off!

A session baking cupcakes with you in the kitchen can be a tactile and taste party! Use talking scales and measuring jugs to involve your child in every step of the preparation. Let them feel the difference between slippery raw egg, soft flour and sticky icing! And who can resist the taste of the end results!

Adapt and create

Whilst there are many mainstream and specialist toys listed in this guide, you can also adapt and create your own accessible toys with a little imagination.

Adapt

If your child's favourite book doesn't come in tactile form, consider adapting the pages yourself to enhance the sensory experience and bring the story to life. Add scraps of fabric to create tactile features to illustrations, or make the outline of an image tactile by using tippex, string or Wikki Stix. Try using puffy markers to create tactile markings or braille on number jigsaws or toy clock faces.

"We had a book with jungle animal sound effects on it. My son loved it but there was nothing to differentiate the buttons by touch. So I found scraps of different fabrics – fur, leather, silk – and stuck small squares to help him tell the furry tiger button from the leathery elephant button."

"My son loves the Tiger Who Came to Tea. We bring it alive with a bag of objects including a hard and a cuddly tiger, some fur, a cup saucer, plate of cakes and a jug. At the end of the story we always have to put a hat and scarf on and turn off the light to signify going out at night."



Create

Toys can be expensive but your home can be full of potential for making low cost toys using recycled objects. Try hot-gluing two empty yogurt pots together filled with rice to create a shaker. Create several using different grains or pasta shapes inside to experiment with different types of sounds. Bubble-wrap is a lovely material for children to fiddle with or walk around on.

"I created a texture door game for my daughter by using the plastic snap shut lids you find on some brands of baby wipes to create a wall of doors by sticking them to a piece of stiff cardboard and putting different textures – sandpaper, foil, corrugated card – behind each door. My daughter loved opening and closing the doors to find out what 'touch' was behind."

"When my son was diagnosed blind at six weeks a friend who was good at sewing made him a playmat which was black and white, high contrast and had lots of integrated sounds and textures."

The Duckiness of Ducks*

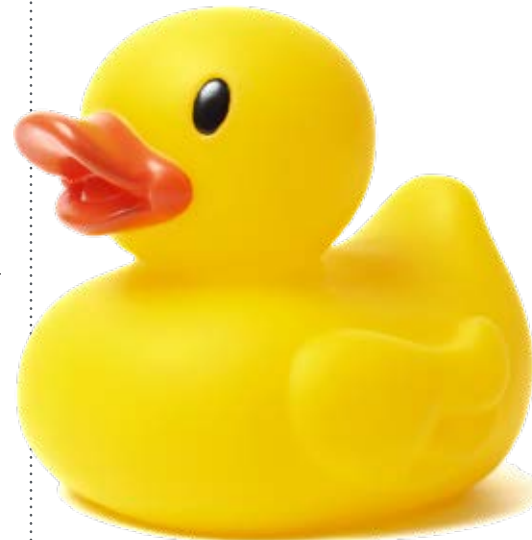
Many toys are representations of animals and objects found in real life but may bear little resemblance to the real thing for a child who is relying on touch, sound and smell. Take a rubber duck for example, it has a similar shape to a real duck, but that's where the similarity ends.

Whilst sighted children can be handed a rubber duck and shown a photograph of a real duck or see one on the pond, a child with vision impairment may have more difficulty connecting a real duck to the toy representation. They may think that real ducks are also smooth and plasticky.

When creating a play landscape for a child with vision impairment it's important to think how a toy might teach a child about the real object it represents. What does the touch of a plastic duck tell a child about a real duck?

The solution to this challenge lies with using a multi-sensory approach to help build a picture of the real thing and help your child learn about how toys represent the real world around them.

*The term Duckiness of Ducks was coined by Professor Mike McLinden, co-author of Learning Through Touch, which is a useful in-depth guide for teaching professionals about tactile learning. Your local vision impairment teaching service may have a copy that you could borrow. The price reflects a target audience of professionals, rather than parents.



"When I was teaching my son about animals we had some plastic ducks. I also found some feathers so we could talk about what real ducks might feel like. The library had a book with animal noises and I found some animal noise videos on YouTube.

We also spent a lot of time at our local petting farm where my son could feed the real ducks as well as smell and hear a real farmyard. It was here that he truly understood the hardness and action of a duck beak in his open hand of seeds."



"Plastic food is often nothing like the real thing. We had a plastic baguette which was the same colour and shape as the real thing, but it told my daughter nothing about the texture of a real baguette.

I made her a baguette using a loo roll covered in sand paper with cotton wool stuffed inside and we played with this alongside a real baguette and the plastic one and talked about how they were similar and different."

Developmental areas

Children develop through play from birth and beyond, but all children develop differently and at different rates. Many children with vision impairment may also have additional learning needs or challenges.

"I found it useful to put ideas of age ranges and milestones to one side and let my daughter show me what worked for her."

Whilst many toys carry age guidelines, we feel that you are the best judge of what is right for your child and their developmental stage, regardless of their age. Observe your child and how they react to different toys and activities (filming can help). Give them time to explore and note what engages and challenges them, and above all, have fun!

How does your child like to play?

When choosing toys and activities for your child you may wish to consider the six areas of play development – sometimes known as Schematic Play Patterns – and consider how your selections may help your child develop in these areas.

Schematic play patterns

Schemas are patterns of play which children may repeat time and time again whilst they are exploring the world around them. There are six common schemas. Children should be encouraged to explore as many play schemas as possible, but you may find they have their favourites. Try to gently create opportunities for your child not to get stuck in one style of play.





- **Trajectory** – Children may throw or drop objects, run back and forth, enjoy jumping up and down or pushing chairs or objects around.

“My son loved pushing a toy buggy around and also chasing balloons and soft balls.”

- **Transporting** – Children may like to carry objects in a bag from one place to another. They may enjoy filling containers in the garden with sand or soil and move them from place to place.
- **Rotation** – Your child may be fascinated with objects that turn round and round, twist and spin, or even enjoy moving their own bodies to display these movements. You may find your child enjoys turning taps, switches and knobs on and off.
- **Envelopment** – Some children enjoy putting on layers of dressing up clothes or wrapping themselves up in fabric and hats. You may see your child making dens, hiding in cardboard boxes, or crawling through tunnels.
- **Connection** – Many children enjoy connecting toys and objects together such as train tracks, bricks, junk modelling, or just lining up toy animals or cars so they all touch in a row.
- **Containing** – A child may enjoy enveloping objects, themselves or a space. They may make parcels containing everyday objects, enjoy putting one thing inside another (Russian dolls), shape sorting, posting objects, climbing into boxes.

Products



How to use this catalogue

Some of the toys listed in this guide have features which stimulate any useful vision a child may have – shiny, bright or bold aspects that are visually interesting and will help your child develop and exercise any residual vision.

Other toys have features which stimulate the other senses and are suitable for a child with no useful vision – they have exciting textures, sounds or shapes.

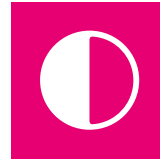
You and your child can experiment with what aspects of a toy make it the most fun to play with, and what sensory skills might be most useful to practise.

Sourcing toys

Most of the toys featured in this guide are available from high street toy retailers or online for home delivery from major online retailers.

NB Prices are approximate at the time of writing and don't include postage and packaging. All products are suggestions to give you ideas. You may be able to find similar products at more competitive prices so it's worth shopping around.

Play icons



High contrast

High contrast black and white or black and yellow products can stimulate useful vision in babies with vision impairment.



Imaginative play

Imaginative games help children explore experiences and practise daily routines. Small world toys allow children to create worlds and act out different scenarios.



Social play

Toys which promote social play help children understand the relationship between people, objects and place.



Creative play

Creative play, including drawing, painting, crafting, modelling and music, helps your child to develop their own individual ways of expressing their thoughts, ideas and feelings.



Physical play

Toys that promote physical play help children develop coordination, spatial awareness, strength, balance and agility.



Construction

Constructive play helps children develop awareness of form, shape, strength and balance. It also promotes logical thinking, problem solving and motor skills.

Playful beginnings

Every child brings with them a sense of curiosity which drives their interest to understand and explore the world.



Infant Stim Mobile

By Manhattan Toy
Wimmer-Ferguson

High contrast black and white mobile for use above a cot.

£26



Wrist Rattle and Foot Finder Set

By Lamaze

High contrast rattles which promote movement and activity before your baby is able to sit.

£8.50



Mind Shapes

By Manhattan Toy
Wimmer-Ferguson

High contrast blocks with varying tactile and sound features.

£20



Baby's Very First Book: Faces

By John Fordham

Crinkly pages, a mirror and high contrast pictures to stimulate senses.

£5





Lamaze Octotunes

By Lamaze

Vanilla scented, each of the 8 tentacles plays a different note when squeezed.

£23



Spots and Stripes Safari Gym

By Bright Starts

Packed with tactile and sound features, including rattles, teethers, mirrors, lights and music.

£49



Bright Starts Activity Balls

By Bright Starts

Multiple colours, textures, sounds and activities. Includes rattle, clicker and spinner.

£8



Manhattan Toy Whoozit Lights and Sounds Spiral

By Manhattan Toys

Spiral design for attaching to cots and buggies. Touch sensitive light and music features.

£28





Prince Lionheart Original Slumber Bear

By Prince Lionheart

Soothing womb or white noise options to aid restful sleep. Reactivates when baby cries or moves.

£27



Crawl and Discover Mat

By Manhattan Toy
Wimmer-Ferguson

High contrast with integrated texture, activities and sounds.

£28



Eva Rubber Foam Puzzle Play Mat

By Various

Non slip play mat that can also be used to construct 3D cubes and shapes.

£10



Rubbabu Sensory Balls

By Bigjigs Toys

Soft and durable natural foam rubber balls in a range of bright colours. Perfect for exploring shape and texture.

From £6



Growing and playing

As your baby grows, so will their curiosity and interest in playful interactions with objects, toys and people. The best person to judge the appropriate toy for your growing child and their individual stage of development is you.



Hide Away Puppets

By The Puppet Company

Contains tactile play potential and movement as well as promoting role play.

£32



Bright Eyes Pets

By Bright Eyes

Touch activates this cuddly pet. Includes light and sound features.

£25



Talking Ginger

By Talking Friends

Ginger repeats everything you say with a funny voice. Pet him to make him purr or hear sound effects.

£22



Cozy Coupe Police Patrol Car

By Little Tykes

Great role play incorporating a fun, high-contrast, police car theme!

£50





Cozy Pumper

By Little Tykes

Great role play incorporating lots of switches, tactile play and sound effects.

£25



Talking Clip Board

By tts-group.co.uk

Innovative recordable clipboard featuring a 40 second record function.

£12



SparkUp The Magical Book Reader

By SparkUp

Uses camera sensing technology to record and read aloud any picture book.

£19



My Pal Scout

By LeapFrog

Cuddly interactive friend who explores words, counting and feelings through 14 activities.

£25





Full Support Swing

By tfh Special Needs Toys

Swing high! This seat gives added support for high flying adventures!

From **£138**



Push Along Lion

By Orange Tree Toys

Promotes mobility and exploration. Push along and feel the ground through the wheels.

£13



TP Trampoline

By TP Activity Toys

Boing boing! Use indoors or outside. Hand rail offers extra security and balance support.

£40



Discover Sounds Activity Garden

By Little Tykes

Lots of sound features. Includes crawl through archway, interactive telephone and much more.

£55





3-in-1 Zebra Scooter

By VTech Baby

Grow-with-baby design featuring sound and lighting features for multi-sensory exploration. Transforms into a scooter.

£55



Y velo Air Blue

By Y volution

Promotes mobility and balance whilst maintaining contact with the ground. A great introduction to cycling.

£35



First Steps Baby Walker

By VTech

Packed with interactive buttons and sound exploration, as well as providing mobility support for toddling children.

New version available from £28



Weehoo Bike Trailer Turbo

By Weehoo

Offers great opportunities for family bike rides and the feeling of movement and the elements on your skin!

£399





Number Lovin Oven

By LeapFrog

Cook up a storm and explore shapes, colours, number and fractions. Lots of sounds features too, including over 30 phrases and cooking sound effects.

£20



Metal Detector

By National Geographic

Seek out buried treasure or just use along the street to find metal objects and explore surroundings through sound and touch.

From £32



Kiddo 4-in-1 Trike

By Kiddo from Raygar

Transforms as your child grows from parent push-along to independent pedalling.

£70



Primary Science Metal Detector

By Learning Resources

Explore different types of materials around the house or in a sand tray with this hand held metal detector.

£16





5 in 1 Growing Gym

By Little Tykes

Offers hand and foot feedback and interaction and transforms into stand up art table as your child grows.

£59



Nerf Vortex Mega Howler

By Hasbro

Howls with a whistling action as it spirals through the air helping your child locate and catch!

£13



Rainforest Jumperoo

By Fisher Price

Upright play and bouncing for pre-walkers. Promotes movement whilst supporting and stimulating.

£70



Happyland Farm

By ELC

A busy farm with animal sound effects. The HappyLand farm can be expanded to create a village with other buildings and connecting play sets including a shop, nursery and church.

£45





Bloomy Sing Along Farm Tractor By Hamleys

Vroom! Vroom! This tractor comes complete with animal and tractor engine noises, as well as playing Old MacDonal had a farm.

£20



123 Noah's Ark By Playmobil

The bright contrasted colours and quality of Playmobil's 1.2.3 range offers endless small-world play fun. Grow scenarios by adding from the large number of other 1.2.3 play sets available.

£30



Hetty Vacuum Cleaner

Realistic vacuum cleaner which actually picks up small pieces. Great for playing house role play games and learning about adult life.

£20



Tiny Rainbow Music Bells By Tobar

Delightful set of bells, each creating a different sound when rung.

£15





Lacing Beads in a Box

By Melissa and Doug

A really versatile toy that can be used not only as a fine motor lacing activity but also construction, shape and number recognition, pattern making and sorting.

£13



Giant Keyboard

By Early Learning Centre

Hop, skip and jump around this fantastic jumbo keyboard to create and record songs. Includes demo songs, volume control and can be plugged into an MP3 to play along with your favourite tunes.

£45



Munchkin Mozart

Magic Cube

Toy cube provides musical foundations for children. Interactive cube teaches how to combine sounds to create eight Mozart masterpieces. Includes harp, French horn, piano, flute and violin sounds.

Newer version from £40



Easi-Speak MP3 Player/recorder

By TTS Group

Record voices, sounds or music on the move with this MP3 recorder. Great for budding singers, news reporters or nature lovers. The high contrast colour scheme is a bonus too!

From £15





Wikki Stix Wax Modelling Sticks

By Wikki Stix

Fun no-mess wax modelling sticks which stick together to create fun shapes. Use on a board to create outlines of shapes, numbers and letters or create tactile pictures or faces.

from £5



Rainbow Talking Boxes

By TTS Group

Pack of six boxes which record and playback up to 10 seconds of audio. Use them to create fun treasure hunts or store precious keep sakes.

£32



Recordable Pegs

By TTS Group

Use these fantastic recordable pegs to hang up art work and create an accompanying audio description. Pack contains six pegs, each can record up to 10 seconds of audio.

£40



LeapReader Reading and Writing system

By Leap Frog

This versatile pen reader can read text and dialogue when pointed within the special accompanying books (sold separately).

£30





Geometric Stacker

By Melissa and Doug

Offers a variety of playful learning explorations including shape, colour, size, form and height.

£14



Rainbow Nesting Wooden Blocks Stacker

By Grimm's Spiel and Holz

Create a rainbow! Or make a containing home for animals or create a tunnel for cars to pass under with this beautiful, robust stackable construction set.

£25



Wooden Rainbow Sound Blocks

By Wonderworld

Combining construction with sensory exploration. Build, shake and listen or stimulate useful vision with transparent coloured blocks.

£30



Magnetic Discovery Set

By Smartmax

A fantastic kit for exploring magnetic attraction and repulsion as well as building fun structures. Contains bars and balls for infinite building fun.

From £25





Marble Run

By Galt

24 brightly coloured pieces in four different shapes to slot together to create a marble run and explore gravity, force and motion.

£13



Snap Cubes

By Learning Resources

A great resource for children learning about length and one-to-one correspondence in maths. Also fun for building and colour sorting.

£10



Bristle Blocks

By Bristle Blocks

Create structures by pushing the tactile bristles together to grip one another. This portable carry case set is great at home or on the go.

£32



Wooden Geometric Solids

By Learning Resources

These smooth wooden geometric shapes offer a natural way to explore shape and form.

£17





Ruff's House Teaching Tactile Set

By Learning Resources

Develop tactile awareness with 'Ruff' the dog and his textured bones.

£29



Sound Puzzle Vehicles

By Melissa and Doug

Place a vehicle puzzle piece correctly in the puzzle board and listen to it toot, beep or rumble!

£13



Spray, Squeeze and Squeegee Cleaning Set

By Melissa and Doug

This pretend play cleaning set lets kids spray, squirt, squeegee, scour, and scrub using real water. Promotes fine and gross motor skills and encourages imaginative play.

£15



Basic Skills Board

By Melissa and Doug

Develop fine motor and life skills as you zip, buckle, snap, lace and tie using the separate wooden pieces.

£15





Latches Board

By Melissa and Doug

Undo a lock or latch, swing open the numbered door and build fine motor skills while learning about colours, numbers, animals and more!

£15



Hama Maxi Beads

By Hama

Bigger beads and bright colours help develop fine motor and fixation skills whilst creating brilliant designs.

£15



Giant Polydron

By Polydron

These durable, lightweight shapes are great for little hands to explore and build. We love that the name of each shape has been written in braille too!

From £75



BIG Plus Plus

By Plus Plus

One shape – endless possibilities. Create 3D designs and mosaics using these larger bricks which come in a range of bright and contrasting colours.

From £5.50





Junior Inventor Discovery Scientific Workbench

By Hape

Get started on the road to becoming a scientist with this workbench containing over 10 different experiments! With movement and sound to help develop sensory as well as motor skills.

£75



My First Game Petting Zoo

By Learning Resources

Simple game play encourages tactile and sensory awareness as players select pieces by touch alone.

£21



Smart Sounds Play House

By Learning Resources

Ideal for developing a range of key skills, this interactive house features doors with workable locks and noise making switches.

£25



Crackle Baff/Smelli Gelli Baff

By Zimpli

Add to water to create sensory play with tactile and scented elements.

£5





Stems

By Learning Resources

Introduce STEM to young learners through play with this flexible 3D construction toy.

£9



Representative toys

As well as finding toys that are accessible for your blind or partially sighted child, you may wish to consider including toys which represent vision impairment in your toy box. Seeing a toy with glasses, a guide dog or a white cane can help a child with a vision impairment grow positive self esteem and express their experiences through role play. These toys are also useful for explaining to siblings and sighted friends about diversity and difference.

The organisation #ToyLikeMe celebrates disability representation in toys and can advise if you are looking for additional representations such as wheelchairs, hearing aids or diabetic kits.

[facebook.com/toylikeme](https://www.facebook.com/toylikeme)

toylikeme.org



Our Generation Doll

By John Crane

A large scale doll with glasses. An accompanying pack of additional glasses designs and sun glasses can be bought separately.

£28



Guide Dog Puppy

By Dogalogue at Guide Dogs

Become a puppy walker with this cute plush guide dog toy to look after and train. Comes with its own blue training jacket. Woof!

£8



Lottie Doll

By Arklu

Based on the body dimensions of an average 8 year old and with 25% of the range coming with glasses, Lottie dolls are sure to please.

£20



Giant Road Jigsaw

By Orchard Toys

Incidental representation at its best. This large floor jigsaw features wheelchair and mobility scooter users, along with a man and his guide dog strolling to work.

£12





Barbie Careers – Eye Doctor
By Mattel

Great for role playing, a visit to the doctors or opticians or preparing a child to get their first glasses.

£20



Makies Sight Assistance Cane
By MakieLab at Shapeways

Toy cane design available to print on demand from 3D company Shapeways. The cane is the perfect fit for Barbie or similar doll. Also comes in a range of other colours, including white.

£9



A full list of representative toys and where to purchase them can be found at toylikeme.org

#toy
like
me

RNIB toys and games

All of these products are available from the RNIB shop [rnib.org.uk/shop](https://www.rnib.org.uk/shop)



Braille Bananagrams (GB107)

Players race against each other to build crossword grids and use all their letter tiles. Durable off-white plastic tiles with braille on clear labels allow the bold black print letters to be seen underneath. For two to eight players.

From **£21.99**

<http://bit.ly/2n6ALLv>



Tactile Hasbro Toilet Trouble (GB106)

We've adapted this popular family game so that the toilet roll dice displays large black numbers against a white background and raised dots for tactile readers to identify the number rolled. Spin the "dice", flush the toilet handle and hope you don't get sprayed with water! For two or more players.

From **£21.00**

<http://bit.ly/323HoUc>



Tactile Hasbro Connect 4 (GB105)

We've modified this family favourite so the coloured counters are distinctly different. The red counters have holes in the middle of them and the yellow counters are solid, so you'll always know which counters are yours. For two players. Ages six upwards.

From **£18.50**

<http://bit.ly/3420AmZ>



Paint by numbers (ET43)

A pack of ten rainforest animal images printed and embossed on heavy paper, plus braille and print fact sheets. Trace the embossed lines with your fingers and use the number/colour code to colour in the images with crayons, pencils or paint. Ages six upwards.

From **£32.99**

<https://bit.ly/2lN1S4k>



Scented markers (ET01)

Set of eight colourful, washable scented marker pens. Each marker has a distinct fruity scent: Strawberry, blueberry, orange, watermelon, blackberry, green apple, grape and lemon. Not suitable for children under 36 months. Contains fragrances that may cause allergies.

£5.99 inc VAT

<http://bit.ly/2L9lIEM>

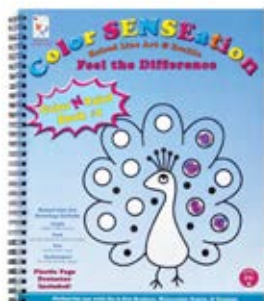


Braille Uno cards (GC06)

In this game of skill and chance the aim is to eliminate your hand of cards before your opponents. Each easy-to-see card is embossed in contracted braille, and characters are approximately 3cm (1.2 inches) high. For two to 10 players.

From **£10.50**

<http://bit.ly/2Zz2rjO>



Colour SENSEation Book One (ET19)

Contains 12 easy-to-follow embossed designs set on heavy paper with thick black lines and titles in large print and braille. Perfect for markers, watercolour paints and crayons. Includes a removable plastic page protector. Not suitable for children under 36 months.

From **£5.99**

<http://bit.ly/2HsZfMl>



DK Braille books

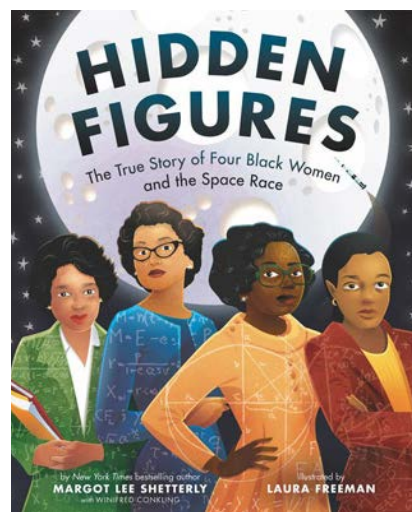
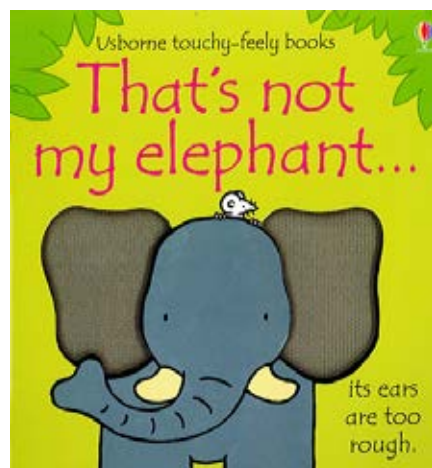
We worked with leading publisher Dorling Kindersley to create the DK Braille collection of children's shared reading books. Aimed at children from pre-school age to 12 years old, they all contain braille, clear print and colourful tactile images, making them inclusive as well as educational and fun.

<http://bit.ly/2zqo8E4>

Shared reading books

Browse our range of delightful picture books, for young children, which are adapted to include Unified English Braille (UEB) on either interleaved clear sheets or clear self-adhesive labels, allowing the print text and images to be seen underneath and the book to be shared and enjoyed by everyone. Titles may change.

<http://bit.ly/2KYUhJD>



Further resources

RNIB offers a range of information, advice, products, activities and services for children, young people, their families and the people who work with them. For more details visit [rnib.org.uk/children](https://www.rnib.org.uk/children)

The following organisations and communities may be able to offer you more ideas and information to help you create a rich and exciting play landscape for your child.

Advice and support

Family Fund

familyfund.org.uk

Provides grants for families raising children with serious illness or disability, including assistance in purchasing specialist play equipment.

Henshaws Society for Blind People

henshaws.org.uk

Advice, training and a fantastic arts and crafts centre in Knaresborough.

Guide Dogs UK

guidedogs.org.uk

Supporting children and young people's lives through family support, rehabilitation, education and access technology.

RNIB

We can provide information on all aspects of education and support for blind and partially sighted children and young people. Visit our website **rnib.org.uk/children** or call our Helpline on **0303 123 9999**.

Kids

kids.org.uk

Enabling children and young people with special education needs and disabilities to enjoy their lives and achieve their ambitions, whilst providing support and guidance to their families.

Look

look-uk.org

National federation of families with visually impaired children.

Through Scarlett's Eyes

throughscarlettseyes.com

Resource, information and community for parents of children with VI.

Wonderbaby

wonderbaby.org

Comprehensive resource and community for parents of young children with VI and additional disabilities. Packed with articles, ideas and lots of information about toys and play.

VICTA

victa.org.uk

Supporting children and young people with VI and their families.

Literacy and braille

Access2Books

access2books.org

Produces and publishes high quality early years books in large print and braille without obscuring illustrations.

Clearvision Project

clearvisionproject.org

UK postal lending library with over 13,000 titles of children's books with added braille or Moon.

Inclusive Minds

inclusiveminds.com

Championing inclusion, diversity and accessibility in children's literature and publishing.

Living Painting

livingpaintings.org

Produces and loans by mail order touch-to-see books for people of all ages.

Positive Eye

positiveeye.co.uk

Consultancy and training for professionals and parents on meeting educational needs of children with VI. Toys and resources are also available to purchase.

RNIB Bookshare

rnibbookshare.org

An online collection of educational books and images in accessible formats for print-disabled learners including those with dyslexia or who are blind or partially sighted.



Toy suppliers, loans and ideas

Cheap Disability Aids

cheapdisabilityaids.co.uk

Online store with a large range of sensory toys and products.

Imagination Tree

theimaginationtree.com

Contains reams of ideas for creative activities for children. This site is not VI specific but contains lots of tactile and sensory ideas.

Newlife Foundation for Disabled Children

newlifecharity.co.uk

Offers Play Therapy Pods to loan for children with disabilities and life-limiting conditions. Pods contain a range of sensory toys and are available for loan at home.

Playful Explorations for Children with Visual Impairment

Search on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

Facebook group and resource about play and creative fun run by a mother of a blind son.

Sensory Sun Technologies

sensorysun.org

Resources and products for children with visual impairment, includes a Braille App.

#ToyLikeMe

toylikeme.org

A resource and campaign celebrating disability representation in toys and calling on the global toy industry to better represent 150 million disabled children worldwide. Their website lists representative products and contains links to where you can buy them.



RNIB

For more information about the services we offer to children, young people and families visit rnib.org.uk/children or call our Helpline on 0303 123 9999.

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rnib.org.uk

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