

STUDY OF BRAILLE FLUENCY, AUST & NZ

Resources created since
research. T. d'Apice

Student Results

Of the 73 students assessed ...

... all but one student

Could not read at an equal rate, or faster than, their
sighted peers

Variables considered

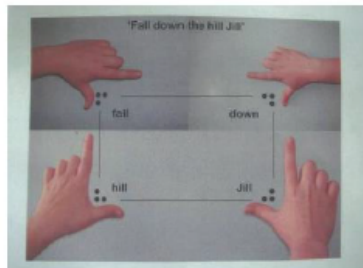
- Eye Condition
- One handed or two handed reader
- Curriculum reading media: Braille, Print, Audio
- Length of time learning Braille
- Braille only or Dual Media
- Reading for leisure?
- Reading Braille for leisure?

More Questions than Answers

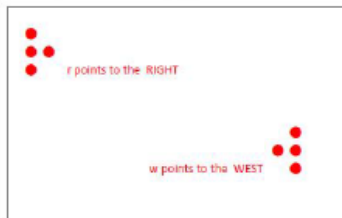
- It is generally thought that reading fluency is directly related to comprehension ...
 - BUT our students are doing well in school!!
 - Is this statement the case with Braille reading students?

2. Vision Support Teachers Questionnaire N = 40

Mainstream Reading Materials	Braille Reading Materials	Teaching Strategies	Mnemonics
<input type="checkbox"/> Class readers <input type="checkbox"/> Readers not used by the class <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ozzie Dots <input type="checkbox"/> Patterns <input type="checkbox"/> Experience Books <input type="checkbox"/> Mangold <input type="checkbox"/> UEB Training Manual <input type="checkbox"/> FEELIX Library <input type="checkbox"/> I do like it <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Paired reading <input type="checkbox"/> Repeated Reading <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Braille Rap Song <input type="checkbox"/> See below <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Apps <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>



Samples of Braille mnemonics



Do you know some more mnemonics that may help other vision support teachers?

If so, could you draw them here or on the back of this page? A compilation of these will be dispersed to participants and their schools at the end of the study.

Experience materials

- The survey of vision support teachers emphasised the importance of personalised handmade experience books and materials, to assist the students to gain meaningful information through literacy.
- Content of books is based on the child's rich life experiences.



Photo of Routines and
My Summer books.
Perkins

Fun and games

- Interesting topics relating to the child were found on the internet, and then converted to Braille, including; Word searches, interesting facts, games, jokes, recipes. Other activities include:
- Go Fish
- Old man
- Flip books
- Language Master
- Posting boxes
- Fishing game
- Memory
- Board games
- Matching
- Book Bags / Sacks

Braille Specific resources used by vision support teachers.

- Ozzie Dots
- I do like it
- Patterns
- Mangold Braille Reading Program
- Spot the Dot
- Braille in Easy Steps
- Abi Books
- UEB Practice Sentences, Roberta Becker
- Ann and Friends, beginning Braille Readers
- Ready to read, PM (NZ curriculum)
- Braille for Infants (RNIB)
- Take Off Braille Reading Series 1,2,3, & 4,
- Ladybird Graduated Braille Readers
- Alphabet book with tactile pictures

What has happened since this research?

Anecdotal observations

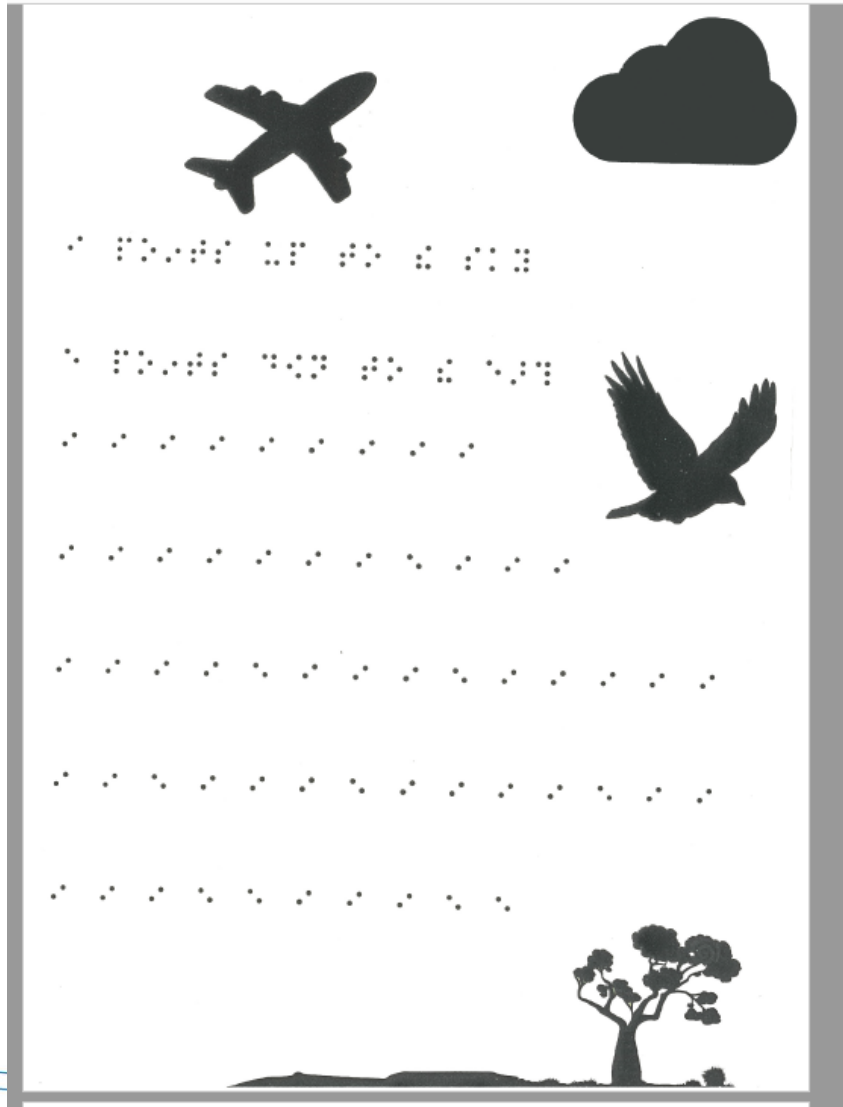
- 1. The majority of reading accuracy errors were Braille reversals
- 2. Parents invest a great deal of time and money in their sighted children's literacy ...
- ... they may not have the resources or knowledge to be able to do the same with their blind children

Resources have been developed
for parents and teachers.

1. Reversals

- Magic Square (f,d,h,j) 3D file
- Slippery dip (e, i)
- Christmas Tree (st, ch)
- Reversal Work book

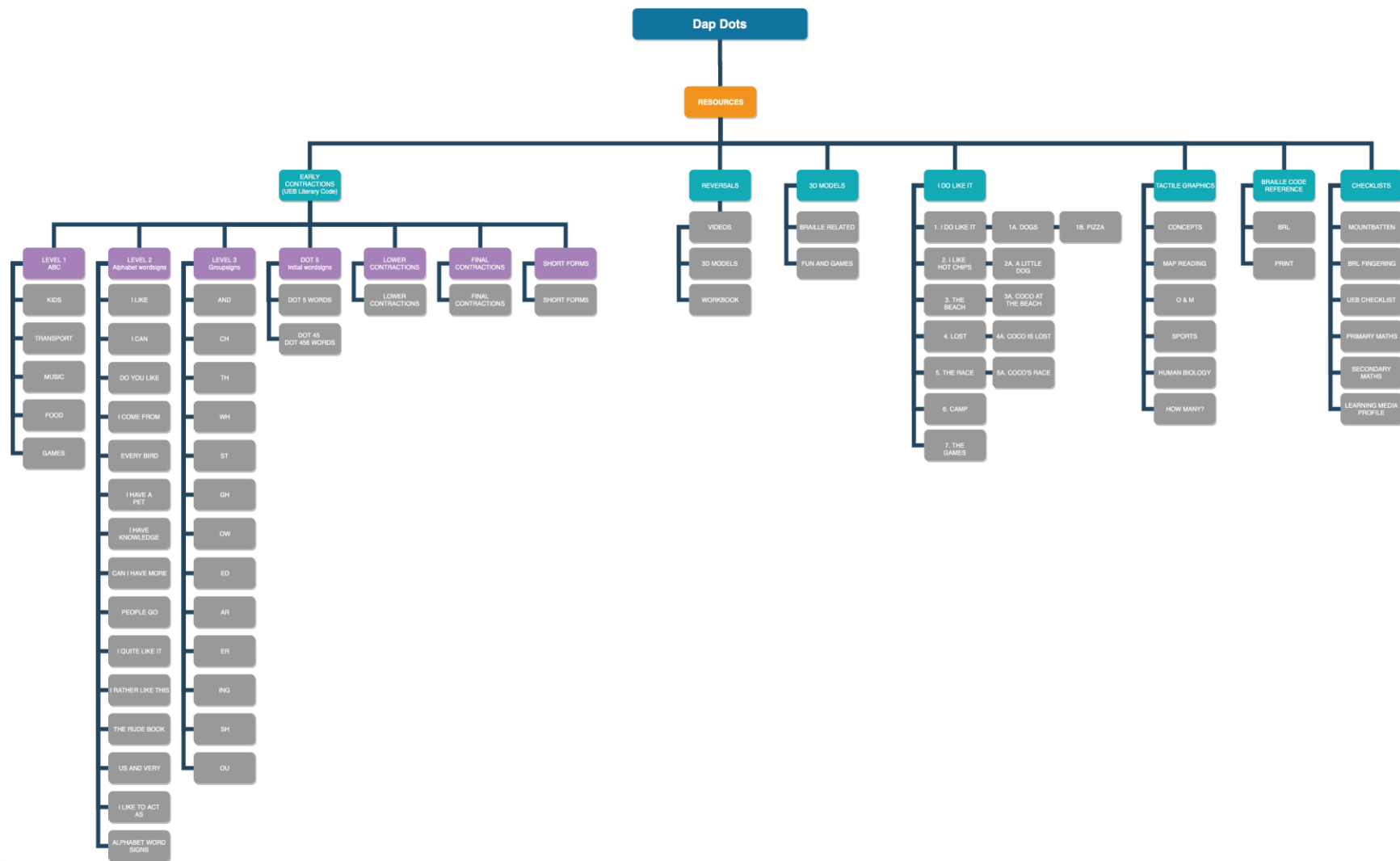
Reversal work book



Other pages

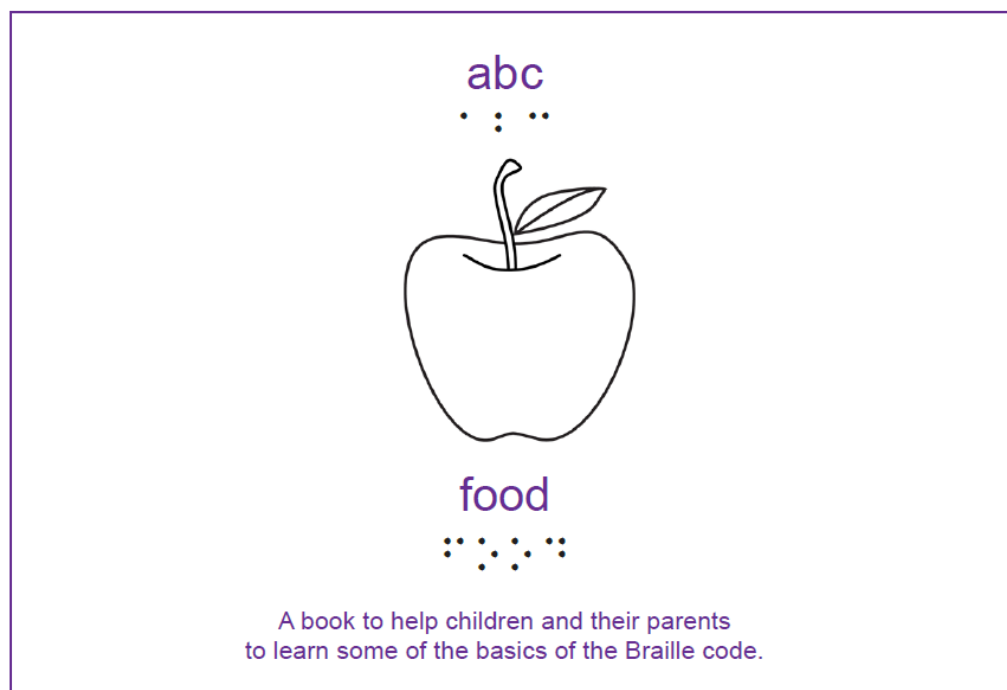
2. fdhj
3. and, y
4. n, ed
5. the, z
6. p, th
7. st, ch
8. m, sh
9. with, of

2. Resources for parents



Alphabet books

- ABC for Kids
- ABC Transport
- ABC Music
- ABC Food
- ABC Games



Standalone Wordsigns:

Parent pages

About this book

Underline indicates a braille contraction

Print: I like

Grade 1 Braille: ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

Print: I like

Grade 2 Braille: ⠠⠠⠠⠠

(Parent information, not included on tactile pages)

Tactile graphic label: milk

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

Grade 2 Braille correctly spaced:

I like milk
⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

The Stand Alone Alphabet Wordsigns

abc sing with me 

•	a	•	b <u>but</u>	••	c <u>can</u>	••	d <u>do</u>	••	e <u>every</u>
••	f <u>from</u>	••	g <u>go</u>	••	h <u>have</u>	••	i	••	j <u>just</u>
••	k <u>knowledge</u>	••	l <u>like</u>	••	m <u>more</u>	••	n <u>not</u>	••	o
••	p <u>people</u>	••	q <u>quite</u>	••	r <u>rather</u>	••	s <u>so</u>	••	t <u>that</u>
••	u <u>us</u>	••	v <u>very</u>	••	w <u>will</u>	••	x <u>it</u>	••	y <u>you</u>
••	z <u>as</u>								

do you like chocolate

6

do you like chocolate 6



do you like chocolate

chocolate

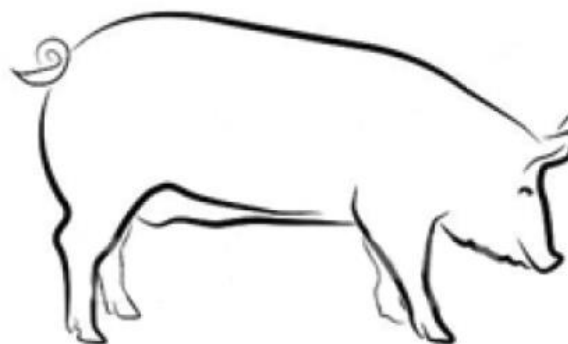
do you like chocolate chocolate

Group Signs

COW



SOW



6



Go



slow



when



you



mow



between the



cow



and



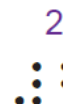
the



sow.



Initial wordsigns



Upon my word whose are these and those?
⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠ ⠠

Unified English Braille: Australian Training Manual, 2016 Pg 95.

All the UEB literary code

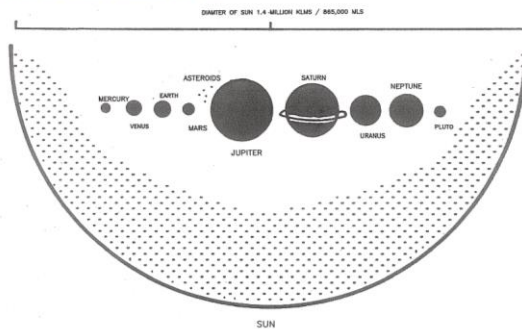
- Lower Contractions
- Final Contractions
- Shortforms
- Link to video footage of reversal mnemonics
- 3D printing files of reversals
- Other useful resources (all free)

Tactile graphics kits

Map Reading:

solar system

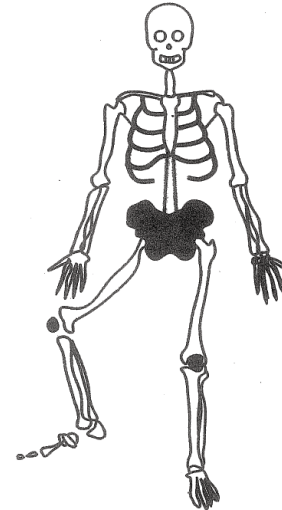
Name the planets in order from left to right



triciadapice@gmail.com

Human Biology: skeleton

Refer to script: file attached



triciadapice@gmail.com

- Map reading
- Human Biology
- Concept development
- Sports
- Orientation and Mobility
- How Many?

Braille Reference Books

Final

Final Contractions

Dots 4-6	Dots 5-6
ound	
ance	ence
	ong
sion	tion
less	ness
ount	ment
	ity

Lower

Lower Contractions

Wordsign	Start of word	Middle of word	End of word
	ea		
be	be	bb	
	con	cc	
	dis		
	-	-	
enough	en	en	en
	ff	!	
were		gg	
his	"		?
was			"
in	in	in	in

The Duxbury Braille Translator - [Code Reference table form.dxb -- Braille Document]

File Edit View Layout Table Document Global Help

Braille code examples for various contractions and words, including 'alone' and 'Current Style: None'.

Thank you

Resources file can be found at:

dApdots.ridbc.org.au

- \$10 for Full Bundle of files (make them yourself)