



PATHS TO LITERACY

for students who are blind or visually impaired
April 21, 2020

Paths to Literacy Newsletter

The latest ideas and resources!

Playing with Words: A Collaborative Approach to Play-Based Storytelling



Playing with Words is a collaborative approach to play-based storytelling with students who are blind or visually impaired who have additional disabilities, including those who are autistic or deafblind. Co-creating stories is focused on the process, rather than the product. That is, it focuses on expanding language and communication, self-determination, self-regulation, and creativity rather than a perfectly composed story. The adult is a support, rather than an authority, building on student interests and using props to expand playful exploration and expression.

We invite you to explore this newly launched microsite on Paths to Literacy, which is full of video examples, activity ideas, and other resources needed to implement this approach from Speech Language Pathologist Linda Hagood.

[More on Playing with Words](#)

LATEST POSTS



Other Ways to Play with Words

Speech Language Pathologist Jay Hiller shares games and activity ideas to expand language and literacy skills.

[Learn More on Other Ways to Play with Words](#)



UP: An Interactive Story-Writing Process with a Prelinguistic Student Who Is Deafblind

These videos are designed for children with cortical visual impairment (CVI), using movement, bubble words, and reduced visual complexity to present familiar stories and songs.

[More on Experience Stories](#)



My Brain is an Admiral Washer

This is an emotion meter story that was created with a student who LOVES washing machines, most of all Admiral washers. He has low vision and experiences attentional difficulties, and this pretend story is designed to improve his self-regulation.

More on Pretend Stories



Forest Walk Meditation

A student with autism has challenges in self-regulation and in connecting to others. She was able to address both of these by building a partner into this meditation (leaning back-to-back against her partner, the “tree trunk”), and by sharing the meditation with her class.

More on Yoga Stories



Two Robots Story

Two first-grade boys made their own "robot" prop and took turns writing, with one adding a braille page and the other adding a print page. This is a story that they took great joy in co-creating. They didn't want the fun to end, so it became an "epic."

More on Epic Stories



Learn to Weave at Home!

Art Teacher Gretchen Bettes shares step-by-step directions to weave at home on your own cardboard loom.

More on Weaving



Learn How to Make Your Own Loom

Make your own cardboard loom with these step-by-step directions from art teacher Gretchen Bettes.

More on Making a Loom

LATEST NEWS



ObjectiveEd and Microsoft Help Students Practice Braille During Pandemic

Thanks to a grant from Microsoft's AI for Accessibility program, ObjectiveEd has developed Braille AI Tutor, which is specifically geared to facilitate learning braille from home or in a distance learning environment.

Learn More about Braille AI Tutor

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