

Module: **Communication and Emergent Literacy:
Early Intervention Issues**

Session 5: Interventions to Facilitate Emergent Literacy

Handout B: Resources and Information for Parents About Braille

Swenson, A., & D'Andrea, F.M. (2003). *Resources and information for parents about braille*. Retrieved June 7, 2004, from American Foundation for the Blind Web site: <http://www.afb.org/Section.asp?SectionID=6&TopicID=97&DocumentID=1252>

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Learning Braille. The following are resources that teach the braille code. Please contact individual organizations and companies for detailed information and/or prices.

New Programmed Instruction in Braille, 2nd Edition by Ashcroft, Henderson, Sanford, and Koenig. Available in print, using simulated braille (i.e., ink print pictures of the dots). Also the *NPIB Companion Reader* in embossed braille, to practice reading along with the NPIB program. Often used in university programs.

SCALARS Publishing
P.O. Box 382834
Germantown, TN 38183-2834
Telephone: (901) 737-0001
Fax: (901) 737-2882
Web site: scalarspublishing.com

Braille Codes and Calculations, by Pesavento. Available in print, with simulated braille. Teaches literary braille and basic Nemeth code. Often used in university programs.

Exceptional Teaching Aids
20102 Woodbine Avenue
Castro Valley, CA 94546
Telephone: (800) 549-6999
E-Mail: exteaching@aol.com
Web site: www.exceptionalteaching.com

The Braille Tutor, by Kapperman et al. Computer assisted instruction and refresher course (DOS only) designed for sighted people who have access to a computer and wish to learn braille.

Association for Education & Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)

1703 North Beauregard Street, Suite 440

Alexandria, VA 22311

Telephone: (877) 492-2708 or (703) 671-4500

Fax: (703) 671-6391

E-Mail: aer@aerbvi.org

Web site: www.aerbvi.org

Braille Through Remote Learning, online braille course. Accessible through Windows, DOS, or Macintosh computers. Offers three levels of courses.

Shodor Education Foundation, Inc.

923 Broad Street, Suite 100

Durham, NC 27705

Telephone: (919) 286-1911 Fax: (919) 286-7876

E-Mail: rpanoff@shodor.org

Web Site: www.brl.org

Braille transcribers' courses through the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS). Offers correspondence courses in braille transcribing and proofreading for literary braille. Eligibility requirements for the transcribing course include U.S. citizenship or residency, and a high school diploma or equivalent. To become a certified transcriber, one must go through the NLS course, which may take a year or more to complete the 18 lessons. Courses are also available in Nemeth code and music braille.

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Library of Congress

Washington, DC 20542

Telephone: (800) 424-8567

Fax: (202) 707-0712

E-Mail: nls@loc.gov

Web site: www.loc.gov/nls

Just Enough to Know Better, by Curran, was designed specifically for parents of blind children who are learning braille. It is not intended to teach all the rules of the literary braille code, but it does introduce all the Grade 2 contractions and points out some common exceptions.

National Braille Press Inc.
88 St. Stephen Street
Boston, MA 02115-4302
Telephone: (617) 266-6160 or (888) 965-8965
Fax: (617) 437-0456
Web site: www.npb.org

Braille Reading for Family Members, a correspondence course offered free of charge through the Hadley School for the Blind. This course uses *Just Enough to Know Better* as part of a self-study program for parents or family members of blind or visually impaired children who wish to learn braille.

Hadley School for the Blind
700 Elm Street
Winnetka, IL 60093-2554
Telephone: (800) 323-4238
Fax: (847) 446-9916
Web site: www.hadley-school.org

Books & Videotapes for Parents. Each of these resources offers valuable information about braille literacy.

The Bridge to Braille, by Castellano and Kosman. Gives an overview of reading and writing with braille for young children, and how parents can promote early literacy.

National Federation of the Blind
1800 Johnson Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
Telephone: (410) 659-9314
Fax: (410) 685-5653
E-Mail: nfb@nfb.org
Web site: www.nfb.org

Personal Touch: Braille for Lifelong Enrichment This video is available free on loan from the Hadley School for the Blind (see address above).