Tactile Symbols

Development of reading occurs in a pattern for every child. At the beginning stages of reading and writing, all children learn about real objects. As they gain more skills, children move toward print or braille.

Your child's literacy medium is the way your child will read and write. In fact, your child may use more than one literacy medium. Your child's educational team, including the teacher of students with visual impairments (TVI), will continue to track your child's reading and writing needs as they change over time.



The educational team decided that your child will use tactile symbols to read and write. Items attached to cardboard, plastic, or poster board are used to represent people, places, actions, foods, objects, and animals. Tactile symbols must be meaningful, and they may be combined with braille or print.



Auditory supports, such as listening to books, may be used with any literacy medium.









AAC System

Switch

Helping at Home

Tactile symbols can help your child read and write individual words and phrases. These symbols can be used to create schedules, labels, books, journals, and other learning materials. You can help your child develop reading and writing skills in the following ways:

- Work with your child's team, including the TVI, to decide which symbols to use at home and school
- Use tactile symbols at home with help from your child's TVI

Assistive Technology

Different types of assistive technology may help your child when reading and writing. Assistive technology may include:

- Calendar system
- Parts of objects
- Standardized tactile symbols
- Finished basket
- Task lighting
- Switches
- Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) system







''s Literacy Medium			
Reading			
Writing			
Helping at Home		Assistive Tech	nology
Contact:			



