

# ClearVision's New Collection of Tactile Books

ClearVision has a new loans collection of very tactile books suitable for visually-impaired children over the age of 3 who are developing tactile skills. The collection is still growing but we now have over 1,000 books in a wide variety of styles and formats.

For health and safety reasons we are only able to lend books from this new collection to schools, nurseries, vi services and other educational establishments. Books must be borrowed primarily for the use of visually-impaired children.

**What is the procedure for borrowing them?** The tactile books in this new collection are quite different to the mainstream books you may already borrow from ClearVision. If you would like to start borrowing tactile books, please complete the following form, ticking or circling answers as appropriate, and be sure to sign the declaration on the last page.

**What are the books like?** Many of the books have been hand-made by individuals, voluntary organisations or prison units. Some are sewn, some glued, and some embossed. Some have been bought from producers abroad; some are winners of the prestigious Tactus Award for tactile books. There are nursery rhymes, simple stories, counting books and early learning topics. All offer an exciting, stimulating and enriching experience to visually-impaired children – including those with additional learning difficulties.

**Will there be braille?** Some of these books have little or no text; others have more words. Most of the books have some braille or Moon added, but not necessarily the whole text. Some books are gloriously tactile but do not lend themselves to the addition of a braille or Moon text and we hope you will find this acceptable – especially as many of the books in this collection are designed to encourage tactile skills in children who are not yet reading.

**Who made it possible?** We are grateful to the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and to Smith's Charity for funding this new project, and to the Ulverscroft Foundation and the Blatchington Court Trust for support in the early stages. Our thanks also go to the many hundreds of people who have made and donated books to create this new collection – the first of its kind in the UK.

**ClearVision, Linden Lodge School, 61 Princes Way, London SW19 6JB.  
Tel 020 8789 9575 [www.clearvisionproject.org](http://www.clearvisionproject.org)**

# Application to Borrow Tactile Books

## 1. Which of the following applies to you?

- My institution is already a member of ClearVision and we want to receive tactile books under our existing subscription.
- My institution is already a member of ClearVision and we want to take out an extra subscription to borrow tactile books in addition to the books we get already. Please invoice me for £50 if I have not enclosed a cheque.
- My institution has not borrowed from ClearVision before.

Please send an invoice / Invoice not required

**For each £50 subscription you can borrow 20 mainstream picture books with added braille or Moon text; OR 10 books for newly-fluent readers (a slim braille volume with a matching print copy); OR 5 tactile books from our new collection. You can exchange your loan up to six times a year.**

If you want to borrow a mixture of different kinds of books, please use the following formula to work out what you can have:

**YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ENTITLES YOU TO 20 UNITS PER LOAN.**

*An adapted mainstream picture book = 1 unit*  
*A book for newly-fluent readers = 2 units*  
*A tactile book = 4 units*

eg a mixed loan might consist of 2 tactile books (= 8 units) **AND** 2 newly-fluent books (= 4 units) **AND** 8 picture books (= 8 units), total 20 units.

## 2. How many of the following would you like to receive?

	quantity
picture books	x
newly fluent books	x
tactile books	x

**3. Which of the following best describes the child(ren) for whom you are borrowing tactile books?**

- In the early stages of tactile development, needing stimulation
- Able to distinguish simple shapes/textures and taking an interest
- Developing fine motor skills and starting to interpret tactile pictures

**4. When handling books are they usually:**

boisterous      over-enthusiastic      quite careful      very careful

**5. Age of child(ren):**      3 - 4      5 - 6      7 - 9      10+

**6. Do they have additional learning difficulties?**      Yes      No

**7. Ideally should the books have:**

grade 1 braille labels      grade 2 braille labels      any braille labels  
Moon labels      no braille or Moon labels      large print

**8. Please give any other relevant information about the children:**

