# APH Products for the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) 2021 Virtual Conference



# **Braille Solutions**

#### Mantis<sup>™</sup> Q4Ø

Keep braille at your fingertips anytime, anywhere with the <u>Mantis</u> Q4Ø, a Bluetooth<sup>®</sup> keyboard and 4Ø-cell refreshable braille display. With the Mantis Q4Ø, users no longer need to choose between a keyboard or a braille device — at the same time a student or professional is typing on the Mantis, the refreshable braille below the keyboard is providing a multimodal braille complement to the screen reader, making it easier to participate in, and succeed at, school or work. The Mantis can be used as a host or stand-alone device. Connect to other devices via USB or Bluetooth, or use the Mantis by itself to read books, edit and manage files, check the date and time, and make basic mathematical calculations.

Mantis Q40

Watch this <u>video</u> to learn more.

# **Braille Solutions**

### Chameleon™ 2Ø

Designed specifically for students, the <u>Chameleon 20</u> is a portable 20-cell braille display with a Perkins-style keyboard that can be used in and outside of the classroom to improve braille literacy skills. With two modes of connectivity, Bluetooth and USB, students can connect the Chameleon to a computer to do research and edit assignments. The Chameleon can also be used as a stand-alone notetaker, allowing students to edit and manage files, read books, check the date and time, and make basic mathematical calculations.

### Braille Trail Reader LE

Start your students' braille journey with a positive technology experience that allows them to discover the joys of reading and writing. The <u>Braille Trail Reader LE</u> is a customized, limited edition version of HumanWare's Brailliant<sup>™</sup> BI14 braille display, developed exclusively for teachers and students. The proprietary Braille Trail Reader File Transfer Windows<sup>®</sup> app enables teachers to easily read and transfer files to and from their students' Reader. Students can take notes and create, edit, and read text and braille files, enhancing the classroom experience. Visit <u>braillebug.org</u> for additional resources, including more information about braille literacy, and engaging and inclusive student activities, and to order a complementary classroom kit.

#### BrailleBlaster™

BrailleBlaster is a free transcription program developed by APH. This software allows transcribers the ability to provide blind and visually impaired students with braille textbooks on the first day of class. Download <u>BrailleBlaster</u> for free today.

# **Braille Embossers**

#### PixBlaster™

<u>PixBlaster</u> is an embosser that combines tactile graphics with braille text. This embosser easily produces double-sided interpoint braille with smooth, rounded dots for improved readability and industry-leading tactile graphics with variable dot heights for color representation. Simply connect to Wi-Fi, use BrailleBlaster, and emboss using 12-inch wide tractor-fed paper.

#### PageBlaster™

<u>PageBlaster</u> is a portable and powerful braille embosser for continuous fanfold paper. The tractor-fed design provides smooth paper handling. Utilize the embosser's Wi-Fi capability and connect to BrailleBlaster to produce double-sided interpoint braille.



# **Low-Vision Solutions**

#### Juno

Magnify and read text aloud with the press of a button. Designed to accommodate the needs of students and adults with low vision, Juno is a great magnifying solution for use during work and recreational activities. Juno can capture and process multiple pages of printed text using Optical Character Recognition (OCR). Users can either read the text on Juno's 7-inch LCD screen with 2x-3Øx magnification and 24 high-contrast color modes, or have it read aloud to them using text-to-speech (TTS).

Juno offers a barrel camera that rotates 180 degrees to support five camera modes - promoting independence, learning, and continuing the hobbies that bring joy to everyday life.

Learn more about Juno's full suite of features in this video <u>Juno</u> <u>Portable Magnifier</u> and by reading <u>Magnification Rocks with Juno blog</u>.



# **Low-Vision Solutions**

### Video Mag HD™

Perfect for students and adults, <u>this handheld magnifier</u> provides crystal-clear, full-color images by magnifying whatever appears under its auto-focus HD camera by 2x-13x. Ideal for viewing small print labels, price tags, receipts, and more.

### Jupiter Portable Magnifier™

Whether it's in the classroom, workplace, or at home, <u>this powerful</u> <u>HD magnifier</u> allows you to continue those activities that bring joy to everyday life, while exploring new opportunities for lifelong education. This easy-to-use, yet powerful magnifier features reading, distance, and self-view modes with over 30 contrasting colors, an LED screen, and much more!

Learn more about Jupiter and its contribution to a student's academic success.

#### MATT Connect<sup>™</sup>

Learn up close and personal. The <u>MATT Connect</u> is a magnifier, distance viewer, and smart tablet, all in one device. Customize your learning experience by choosing simple magnification settings or the feature-rich software options. A preloaded APH accessible software package provides expanded educational value.

Already own a MATT Connect? Get the most out of this revolutionary product with these <u>MATT Connect training webinars.</u>



# **APH Favorites**

### **EZ Test Battery Tester**

Quickly and easily test the strength of common household batteries with APH's EZ Test Battery Tester. A flexible testing wire allows for testing of 1.5 volt batteries, including AAA, AA, C, and D batteries. There are two versions of this product: an <u>audio feedback</u> version and an <u>audio-tactile feedback</u> version. The audio feedback version reports the battery status by audible beeps. The audiotactile feedback version reports the battery status with beeps and vibrations.

### Color Star®

<u>Color Star</u> is a small and lightweight powerful color identifier. It recognizes more than 1,000 different color shades, identifies contrast measurements, recognizes the color of LED lights, perceives the light intensity in the surrounding environment, and recognizes patterns, all with speech output.

### InSights Art Calendar, 2022 - Coming Soon

This beautiful, full-color calendar features the artwork of artists who are visually impaired. Months, days, holidays, and moon phases appear in both braille and large print. This calendar can be used at a desk or hung on a wall, and is ring-bound to allow pages to be folded over easily.



# **APH InSights Calendar 2022**

Featuring Artwork by Visually Impaired and Blind Artists American Printing House for the Blind, Inc.

# **APH Favorites**

#### Sunu Band®

Used as a supplement to the white cane, the <u>Sunu Band</u> is a modern and sleek, smart mobility wristband that uses navigation sensors and haptic feedback to detect and alert you to obstacles up to 14 ft. away. Controlled by using finger gestures on its touch panel and through the free Sunu app available on iOS<sup>®</sup> and Android<sup>™</sup> devices, users can also tell time, set vibratory alarms, and track physical activity.



### Virtual ExCEL Camp

#### Students are invited to register for the free Virtual ExCEL Camp,

which runs from June 21 to August 6. Teachers are also encouraged to observe camp activities. Each week of the Virtual ExCEL Camp will be devoted to a different age/grade group. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, there will be a live webinar camp at 2 p.m. EST. Each week will also consist of an extension activity to do at home every week day. As students are not always able to attend during the scheduled hour, APH will be recording these sessions so all have the opportunity to learn.

Registration stays open all summer. Find out more information and register today for the week that best suits your student's needs.

#### **#AtHomeWithAPH Resources**

Keep your student or child learning and having fun with <u>this list of</u> <u>resources</u> compiled by APH.



### Paint by Number Safari Series

Learn about our Paint By Number Safari Series and related fine arts products in our <u>Building Your Fine Arts Toolkit</u> blog.

Custom-made drawings of real-world subjects are printed and embossed on heavy paper, making this coloring series fun for all. Wide, solid, embossed lines identify the creature, while thin embossed lines denote color separation on the creature's body. Dashed lines identify background images and solid, raised areas identify parts of the images that are too small to fill with color. Each image includes fun facts about that creature's life, including size, diet, predators, and environment, along with specific color code for that creature. These drawings can be colored in using colored pencils, crayons, or watercolor paints.



### Feel 'n Peel Series

The <u>Feel 'n Peel series</u> of products can be used in numerous ways by teachers, parents, students, and adults to make household and academic materials accessible.

### BrailleBuzz™

BrailleBuzz is an instructional toy for young braille learners, ages two to five. It encourages practice with braille characters and phonics, similar to a variety of audio-based toys that teach print writing. Resembling a cartoon bumblebee, BrailleBuzz encourages little ones with audio feedback, a friendly recorded human voice, and fun sounds, paired with a Perkins-style braille keyboard, designed with little hands in mind.



### Code Jumper™

Jump-start students' interest in computer science with <u>Code</u> Jumper! Originally designed by Microsoft and developed by APH, this fun and engaging product takes block coding off the screen and puts it on the table in front of you, making it accessible to all students. Brightly colored plastic pods with oversized buttons and knobs are connected by "jumper cables" (thick cords) to physically create computer code that can tell stories, play music, and even crack jokes. More resources and information about Code Jumper can be found <u>here</u>.

For more information about related coding and electronics products, visit <u>Road to Code</u> and <u>Electronics</u>.



### Hop-a-Dot Mat

With <u>Hop-a-Dot Mat</u>, students can learn braille while being physically involved and active – an exciting alternative to routine, sedentary tasks. Hop-a-Dot Mat encourages young braille readers to acquire and demonstrate their knowledge of the braille cell configuration, braille alphabet letters, one-cell contractions, and numbers through movement. This product's related games and activities address many skills and concepts needed by students who are blind and visually impaired, including social interaction skills, self-expression and creativity, physical activity, body awareness/ coordination, tactile discrimination, and spatial concepts.

#### **Color Raceway**

<u>Color Raceway</u> is an exciting board game, adapted for children who have visual impairments, including those with a CVI diagnosis. Color Raceway utilizes the characteristics of color, movement, and low to high complexity, encouraging players to use their vision in a functional and fun way. Use this game to increase orientation and mobility skills, color awareness, and positive social interaction skills (sharing, taking turns with others) as players navigate the board's track, encountering stop signs and yield signs along the way. Teachers and parents of young students may use Color Raceway's kit of accessories to design an individual game board for each player, building upon players' individual strengths and assisting parents/teachers in understanding the level of materials with which players are most successful. Sighted peers will want to join the fun also.

#### TactileDoodle™

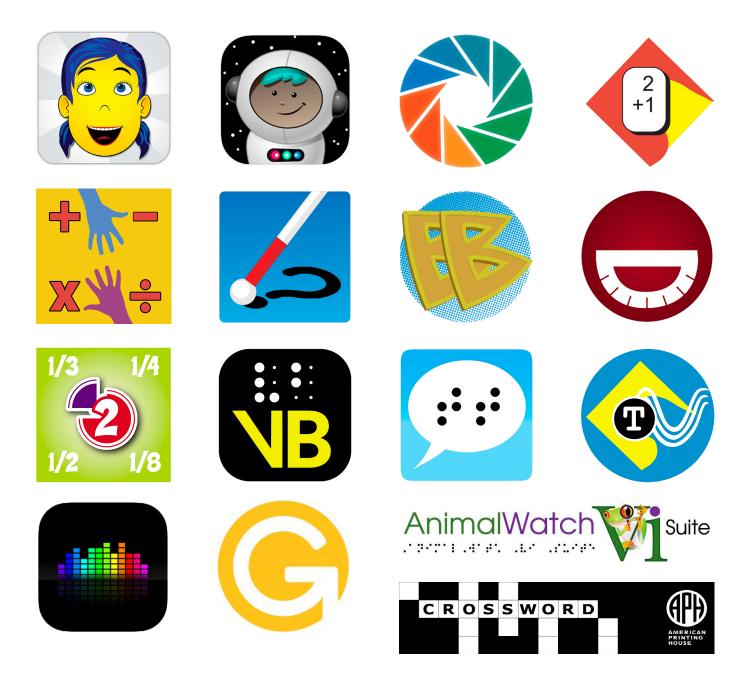
Draw, play, and create - your way! The <u>TactileDoodle</u> is a low-tech drawing board that can be used at home or in school to generate tactile, raised-line graphics or art. Simply pick up the included short, single-tip stylus or a ballpoint pen and start drawing. Drawn tactile images appear white against a black background/padded surface for enhanced visual contrast or a chalkboard appearance.



# **Apps and Games**

## Mobile/Desktop Apps, Skills/Actions

Enjoy hours of fun and learning with APH's variety of <u>apps</u> for desktop and mobile devices. Amazon Alexa<sup>®</sup> and Google Assistant<sup>™</sup> users can also join the party by trying out these <u>APH skills and actions</u>.





# **APH ConnectCenter**





The <u>APH ConnectCenter</u> offers curated advice and resources to assist children, parents, adults, and job seekers who are blind or visually impared, and their associated professionals. It includes:

- <u>VisionAware</u>: A website designed for adults and seniors who are visually impaired.
- <u>FamilyConnect</u>: A website built around the needs of a family of a visually impaired child.
- <u>CareerConnect</u>: A resource page for job seekers who are visually impaired or blind.

APH's Information & Referral Hotline: (800) 232-5463 is a number that people can call to find answers to their questions relating to a visual impairment or blindness.

APH also receives your questions via our e-mail: <u>connectcenter@aph.org</u>.



# **APH ConnectCenter**

### ConnectCenter Events Calendar

APH is pleased to announce the launch of the ConnectCenter Hub and calendar at <u>https://aphconnectcenter.org/events/</u>. Through this hub, people are able to access the three ConnectCenter websites: <u>CareerConnect</u>, <u>FamilyConnect</u>, and <u>VisionAware</u>. This website also includes an events calendar meant to be used by the entire blindness field. Instead of trying to keep track of all the events being hosted by all the blindness organizations, people can find everything in one place.

To submit your organization's event, go to <u>aphconnectcenter.org</u> and fill out the event submission form.

### Coming Summer 2021 to APH ConnectCenter



**TransitionHub:** An interactive collection of resources for transitionage youth. The APH ConnectCenter TransitionHub is made possible through generous funding from The Gibney Family Foundation.

### **Getting Started: A Guide for People New to Vision Loss**

APH is so excited to present the Getting Started Guide for Adults with Vision Loss, which was made possible by a partnership between APH and the Reader's Digest Partners for Sight Foundation. This guide is helpful for those individuals who have been recently diagnosed with a visual impairment. It is designed to help answer some questions one might have if they find themselves wondering what to do, who to contact, and where to go. This guide will point users in the direction of finding the tools, information, support systems, and guidance they seek during this challenging time in their lives.



The Guide provides guidance on exactly what steps you need to take to get started on your journey and arm you with the knowledge and support systems available to you and that you need to help you live at your maximum independence. Steps such as:

- Make an appointment for an Eye Exam.
- Have a low vision examination. The Guide provides some resources that have information about low vision services.
- Explore vision rehabilitation services.
- Get connected with others who are experiencing what you may be experiencing and connect to resources, to services, to peers, and to activities.

Starting with these steps can bring you comfort, knowledge, and support.

More than 25 million Americans report trouble seeing, and APH is here to help by providing this guide in many formats, including print, web, social media, apps, a toll-free hotline, and more. APH will be sending Guides out to local lighthouses for the blind. If you would like a guide, feel free to call the APH Information & Referral Line (8ØØ) 232-5463 or go to aphconnectcenter.org.



# Getting **2020** Started

A Guide for People New to Vision Loss

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