



Created by **The Center for Literacy and Disability Studies**
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Under Contract With the State Department of Public Instruction, Division of Exceptional Children

Making Your Own Tactual Book: A Person or a Plant?

(Book by Kirsten Haugen, From the Plants Start-to-Finish Literacy Starter Kit, Don Johnston Inc., www.donjohnston.com)

Why?

Students with deaf-blindness have limited access to typical children's literature. This book has been adapted to meet this need. The following contains a materials shopping list and a page-by-page description for making your own. The book has been adapted so that it is also appropriate for students with low vision. There are small pieces in these books that may fall off with use. It is critical to supervise your students appropriately around this book, as the numerous, small items present serious choking hazards. Small strips of clear packing tape have been used to reinforce many of the tactuals. When possible, the tape has been placed so that it doesn't cover up important tactual information.

Tactualizing Books

When deciding what to tactualize in a book, it's important to identify the key concept(s) being taught on a particular page. This concept can be tactualized. Thus, you may not need to have a tactual to represent every single item on every page. The use of color has been included for students who have some residual vision, as well as for their sighted peers who may be reading alongside.

Getting Started with Tactualizing A Person or a Plant?

1. Get the following basic tools/equipment
 - High temperature glue gun & glue sticks
 - All Purpose Craft Snips
 - Scissors (regular and those that make wavy edges)
 - Ruler
 - Laminator & laminate
 - Access to a high tech Braille embosser or Braille Labeler
 - Packing Tape
 - Hole Puncher
2. Go shopping and assemble tactuals/materials (see shopping list)
3. Take apart the book and laminate individual pages
4. Tactualize according to page-by-page directions
5. Bind using comb binder
6. Add Braille (Plan A: Work with VI teacher to get text brailled; Plan B: Use Braille labeler)



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**It is easier to tactualize all of the pages individually. Wait and bind book together after you have finished tactualizing it.

Shopping List for A Person or a Plant?

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Craft Store (Michael's/AC Moore's)	Target/Walmart	Hardware Store (Home Depot/Lowe's)	Miscellaneous (Around the house)
Assorted artificial cloth plants: 1 bunch of Mini-leaf green plant 1 bunch of medium or multi-leaf plant Glitter Border sticker strips Yellow fun foam sheet Black Slick Paint White Slick Paint 1 roll of Thin cork Red glue stick for glue gun	Innersole soft foam	1 adhesive back square of smooth white linoleum flooring	3-4 plastic soda bottle caps Empty plastic creamer container or film canister Bubble wrap (small or medium size bubbles) Adhesive back loop and hook Velcro scraps Cap from large marker Thin packing foam scrap (~5" x 5") Non-skid shelf liner scrap (~5" x 5") Small bits of decorative moss from fake plant



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Page-by-Page Descriptions for Book Tactualizing: A Person or a Plant?

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A note about glue & tape: It may be helpful to use more than necessary to increase durability. Over time with use, caps or items may begin to pull away from page. Packing tape can be used to tape down caps and other items. Thin strips can be used so as to not interfere or cover up important tactual information.

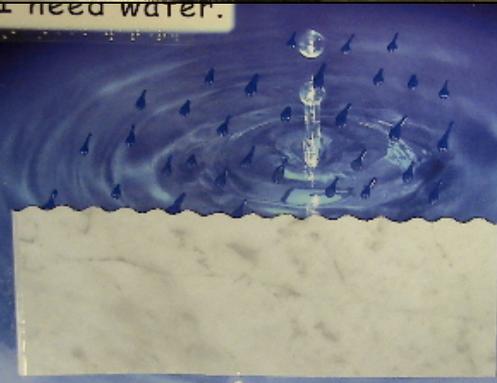
*****Enjoy the book, but please supervise your students appropriately as the numerous, small items present serious choking hazards.**

Page	Key Teaching Concept	Item(s) Represented	Materials Needed	What To Do	Picture
Front Cover	Introduce title and the two main subjects of the book	A plant A person (head only)	3 sets artificial plant leaves, Decorative moss Soft inner-sole foam Black Slick paint	Glue three leaves to the page, overlapping to form one "plant." Glue decorative moss around base of plant. Cut the soft inner-sole foam into a profile; draw a simple eye, mouth, and ear with Slick paint. Glue the face beside the plant.	



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1	Review the question: a person or a plant.	A person (head only) A plant	Soft inner-sole foam Black Slick paint 3 artificial plant leaves Plastic bottle cap, cut in half	Repeat front cover, switching the order of the subjects. Cut the plastic bottle cap in half with craft snips. Glue down to form plant pot.	
2	Discuss who needs air.	Air	Bubble wrap, small or medium size bubbles (~4 1/2" x 8")	Glue a rectangle below the text. Apply the glue to the page, first, along the edges. Allow it to cool slightly, 10-15 seconds, before pressing down the plastic.	
3	Discuss who needs water.	Water	Smooth white adhesive back linoleum flooring (~3" x 8") White Slick paint	Use craft scissors to wave top edge of water. Glue a rectangle of flooring at the bottom of the page. With the Slick paint, draw 20-25 small rounded drops of water.	



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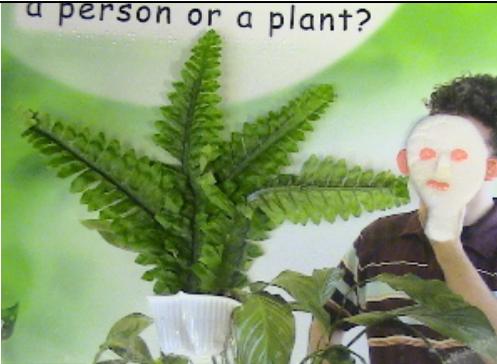
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4	Discuss who needs dirt.	Dirt	Thin cork, ~3.5" x 8" horizontal Craft scissors with wave edge	Use the craft scissors to wave the top edge of the cork. Glue down well.	
5	Discuss who needs sun.	Sun Light rays	Yellow Foam sheet, 2-3" circle Craft scissors with zigzag edge Glitter sticker strips	Use the craft scissors to make the circle's edge zigzagged. Cut the sheet of stickers into thirds and use one third to make the sun's rays: just represent the ones that radiate "down" (toward Earth). Glue the foam circle above the sticker strips.	
6	Talk about question. Can go back a review clues. Encourage student to make a prediction. Read on to see if prediction is true.	A person (head only) A plant	Soft inner-sole foam Black Slick paint 3 artificial plant leaves Plastic bottle cap, cut in half	Cut the soft inner-sole foam into a profile; draw a simple eye, mouth, and ear with Slick paint. Glue down over person on page. Glue three leaves to the page, overlapping to form one "plant." Cut the plastic bottle cap in half with Craft snips. Glue down to form plant pot.	



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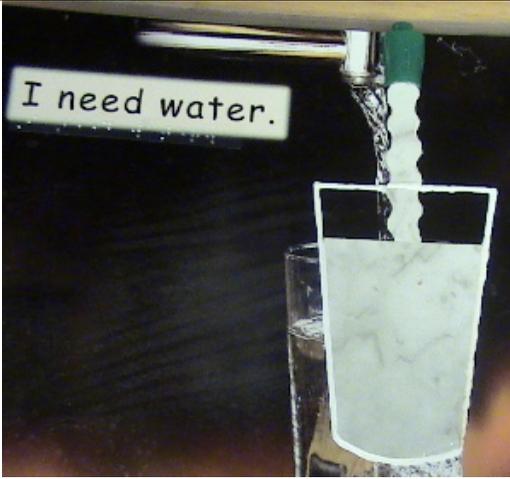
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7	Check prediction. Help student understand if there prediction was correct or incorrect by talking about the things that plants need. (Review each of the tactuals on the page.)	A plant Water Dirt Sun	2 stems of medium-size artificial leaf plant White Slick paint Thin cork (~1" x 2 1/2") Glitter sticker strips (~3" x 1/4")	Glue down small piece of cork to act as dirt. Glue plant down with root area over cork. Add ~10 droplets of water coming down on plant from the left side. Add 4 strips of glitter sticker strips to act as sun rays coming down from the right side of plant.	
8	Talk about question.	No tactual needed for this page.			
9	Talk about question. Encourage student to read next pages so that they can make a prediction.	A person (head only) A plant	Soft inner-sole foam Black Slick paint 3 artificial plant leaves Plastic bottle cap, cut in half	Repeat instructions for page 1.	



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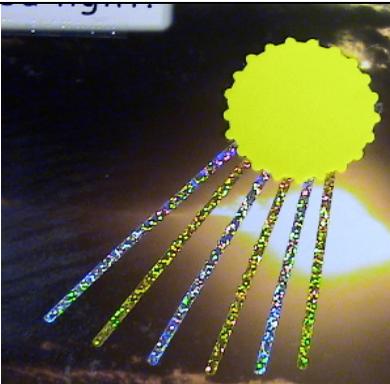
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10	Discuss who needs air.	Air	Bubble wrap, small or medium size bubbles (~6" x 8")	Repeat instructions for page 2.	
11	Discuss who needs water. Can talk about where this water comes from is different than the water earlier in the book.	Water coming out of faucet Water in a glass	Smooth white adhesive back linoleum flooring White Slick paint Cap from large marker Craft scissors with wave edge	Use Craft snips to cut marker cap in half. Glue down next to faucet picture. Cut stream of water out of flooring (~3/4" x 3"). Use craft scissors to wave each side of strip. Glue stream of water down so that it is coming out of marker/ faucet. Cut water in glass out of flooring (~2" x 3"). Taper slightly in shape of glass. Glue down at end of water stream. Use white Slick paint to draw the shape of a glass. Draw around the edge of the water. Make the shape of the glass taller than the water.	



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12	Discuss who needs food. (Can pull off pizza slice and talk about it.) Relate it to student's life/experiences.	Pizza	Thin packing foam Beige non-skid shelf liner Yellow fun foam Red glue stick for glue gun Adhesive back hook and loop velcro scraps	Cut ~5" circle out of thin packing foam (crust). Cut slightly smaller circle out of shelf liner (cheese). Use red glue stick in glue gun (tomato sauce) and glue down shelf liner onto packing foam. When cool, cut small wedge slice out of pizza. Glue down main pizza onto page. Velcro down individual slice. Cut 6-8 mushrooms out of yellow fun foam. Glue down mushrooms onto pizza.	
13	Discuss who needs light.	Sun Light rays	Yellow Foam sheet, 3" circle Craft scissors with zigzag edge Glitter sticker strips	Repeat directions from page 5.	
14	Talk about question. Encourage student to make a prediction. Can go back a review clues. Read on to see if prediction is true.	No tactuals			



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15	Check prediction. Help student understand if there prediction was correct or incorrect by talking about the things that people need. (Review each of the tactuals on the page.)	<p>A person (head only)</p> <p>Glass of water</p> <p>Sun</p> <p>Pizza crust</p>	<p>Soft inner-sole foam</p> <p>Black Slick paint</p> <p>Smooth white adhesive back linoleum flooring</p> <p>White Slick paint</p> <p>Yellow Foam sheet, 3" circle</p> <p>Craft scissors with zigzag edge</p> <p>Thin packing foam</p>	<p>Repeat directions from page 1.</p> <p>Cut small shape of water for glass (~1/2" x 1"). Taper slightly. Glue down and draw shape of glass around it with white Slick paint. Make top of glass taller.</p> <p>Cut small 3" circle. Use craft scissors to zig zag edge. Glue down to upper right hand corner of page.</p> <p>Cut small piece of pizza crust from eaten slice. Glue down.</p>	
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