



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: Shop Til I Drop**

**(Book by Karen Erickson, From the Plants Start-to-Finish Literacy Starter Kit, Don Johnston Inc., [www.donjohnston.com](http://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 Shop Til I Drop**

1. Get the following basic tools/equipment
    - High temperature glue gun & glue sticks
    - X-Acto Knife
    - Scissors (regular and those that make wavy edges)
    - All Purpose Craft Snips
    - 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)
- \*\*It is easier to tactualize all of the pages individually. Wait and bind book together after you have finished tactualizing it.**



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## Shopping List for Shop Til I Drop

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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  1 sheet of <b>non</b> -adhesive back felt, any color  1 fun foam sheet, any color  1 bag medium sized pom-poms, any color  Slick paint, any color  1 roll of Thin cork <b>OR</b> 1 bag of decorative moss	Innersole soft foam  Felt scratch guard circles  Rubber scratch guard circles and squares  Plastic "cloth like" tablecloth, green (or something that is light, yet durable with feeling of money)	1 adhesive back square of linoleum flooring  1 carpet sample  fine sandpaper (or grid tape from APH)	6 plastic soda bottle caps  1 large plastic lid (a spray paint or shaving cream can lid works well)  1 plastic coffee creamer cup  yarn scrap (~ 12")  plastic cord scraps (~12")  foam scraps  2 small zip-lock bags (from bead store)  1 medium zip lock bag  Washcloth <b>OR</b> Terry-cloth fabric scraps



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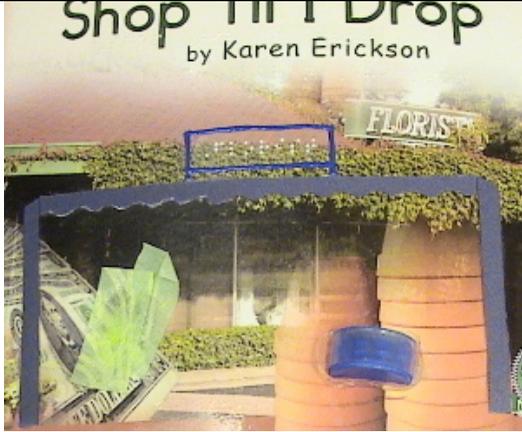
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## Page-by-Page Descriptions for Book Tactualizing: Shop Til I Drop

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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 & concept of a store	Outlined representation of a shop  Shop sign  Money  Flower pot	Adhesive back flooring, 3 thin strips  Slick paint & Braille  Green plastic "cloth": two small rectangles (about 1.5" x 1/2")  1 soda bottle cap, cut in half	Use the tile strips to outline the store. Use one for the roof and two to make two walls. With the Braille labeler, write "FLORIST" and place it above the shop. Outline the sign with Slick paint, 1/4" away from the Braille dots. Inside, glue down the green rectangles for money.  Use Craft snips to cut the soda bottle cap. Glue down one half of the bottle cap.	
1	Read this page while the student looks at/explores the picture on the next page.	No tactuals			



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2	<p>This is a view of the author's messy room from above. Does your student agree that it's not nice? Why or why not? Why might the author think it's "not nice?"</p>	<p>Bed with blanket  Rug Towel Shoes  Jump rope  Teddy bear  Miscellaneous stuff</p>	<p>Adhesive back flooring Packing foam, 2.5" x 4" Felt, 3" x 4"  Carpet sample, 2" circle Terry cloth, 2" x 3" Fun foam  Plastic cord, 6"  2 pom-poms &amp; adhesive back felt circles Yarn, 6" Assorted adhesive bumps (felt, rubber)</p>	<p>Bed: Cut a rectangle out of flooring, slightly bigger than the packing foam. Glue the foam on top, then the felt, leaving 1/3" of foam showing at the top. Glue to the page. Glue down rug &amp; towel on floor around bed.  Shoes: cut two small ovals out of the foam sheet. With hole puncher, make a hole where the opening would be.  Teddy bear: glue two pom-poms together. Add felt adhesive bumps for muzzle, arms, legs, ears.  Scatter items around the page. Lots of glue!</p>	
3	<p>Read this page together. Let the student look at/explore the picture on page 4. Then read page 4 together.</p>	<p>No tactuals</p>			
4		<p>A potted plant, top view</p>	<p>1 soda bottle cap, upside-down 3 sets of cloth leaves, removed from the stem</p>	<p>Squeeze a large dab of hot glue into the bottle cap. Then press the leaves into it. Let it cool, then glue cap to the page.</p>	



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5	How do we buy things? How much is 10 dollars? Discuss things that the student is familiar with that cost ten dollars. Count the currency with your student for basic math. Notice that the denomination is marked in the corner of the bill.	Billfold  Paper money	Felt, 8.5" x 4"  Green plastic "cloth" Braille Large paper clip (a big as possible)	Cut six rectangles out of the green "cloth," 2.5" x 6" each (the approximate size of U.S. currency). Slide the rectangles into the paperclip, spread out slightly. Fold half of the stack of bills under and glue down, about at the center of the felt rectangle. With the Braille labeler, label five bills "1" and one bill "5."	
6	Here's the shop again, from the front cover. The ground outside the shop is paved.	Shop  Shop sign  Pavement	Adhesive back flooring, 3 thin strips  Slick paint & Braille  Sand paper or grip-tape, 3" x 1"	Outline the shop with the vinyl tile (see Front Cover). Write "FLORIST" with the Braille labeler and place it above the store. Outline the sign with Slick paint, leaving 1/4" space around the Braille dots. Cut the sandpaper or grip-tape in half, and glue it on either side of the shop.	
7	Read the price on the sign. Can the author buy this plant? If she buys this plant, can she buy anything else?	Large plant in a pot  Price sign	2 stems of a medium-size leaf plant Individual beverage creamer cup, washed out well and cut in half  Slick paint & Braille	Glue both plant stems to the page, beside the text. Draw a thick line of glue around the bottom of the stems, in the shape of the creamer cup. Let it cool for 15-20 seconds before sticking the creamer cup down, so as not to melt the plastic. Outline the sign with Slick paint and with the Braille labeler, write "10 Dollars."	



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8	This plant is smaller; it costs less.	Small plant in a pot  Price sign	1 stem of Mini-leaf plant Individual beverage creamer cup, washed out well and cut in half  Slick paint & Braille	Glue the plant stem to the page, beside the text. Draw a thick line of glue around the bottom of the stems, in the shape of the creamer cup. Let it cool for 15-20 seconds before sticking the creamer cup down, so as not to melt the plastic. With "2 Dollars," with Braille labeler and put it next to plant. Outline sign with Slick paint.	
9	Illustration of text. Are the large bags of dirt kept inside or outside? How can you tell?	Large bag of dirt  Pavement  Price label	1 medium zip-lock bag Thin cork, crushed OR decorative moss, OR similar (*don't use real dirt; if the bag rips, it will be harder to clean up) Sandpaper or grip-tape, ~ 10" x 2"  Braille	Fill the bag with "dirt" and seal. Glue the sandpaper or grip-tape across the bottom of the page. Seal the bag and glue it to the page, overlapping the "pavement." With the Braille labeler, label the bag "5 dollars."	
10	This bag is smaller; it costs less.	Small bag of dirt  Store shelves  Price sign	1 small zip-lock bag Thin cork, crushed OR decorative moss, OR similar Adhesive back flooring, 2 thin strips about 10" long  Slick paint & Braille	Fill the bag with "dirt" and seal. Glue the strips of tile across the page horizontally, about 3" apart. Glue the bag above the lower shelf. With the Braille labeler, write "2 dollars." Place the label just below the top shelf. Outline sign with Slick paint.	



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11	Can the author afford this pot with the money she has?	Large pot  Price label	Large plastic lid, cut in half  Braille	Glue the lid to the page above the text.  Use Braille Labeler to label the pot "25 dollars."	
12	These pots are smaller; they cost less. How many things has the author seen that she can buy? Which ones does she need? Which ones can she afford? Adjust the discussion to your student's level of math proficiency.	Store shelf  Small pots, stacked  Price sign	Adhesive back flooring, 1 strip about 10" x 1/2"  3 soda bottle caps, cut in half with the craft snips  Slick paint & Braille	Glue the strip of tile across the page horizontally, about 3" from the top. Glue five cut bottle caps above the shelf, applying the glue thickly to the page, first, for each one. With the Braille labeler, write "2 dollars." Place the label below the shelf and outline it with Slick paint.	
13	Here's what the author decided to buy. If appropriate, calculate the cost of the purchase with your student. Notice the interaction.	Author's hand  Cashier's hand  Money  Small pot  Small bag of dirt  Small plant	Soft inner-sole foam  Soft inner-sole foam  Green plastic cloth, cut into 6 small rectangles (~ 1.5" x 1/2")  1/2 of a soda bottle cap  1 small zip lock bag Thin cork, crushed OR decorative moss, OR similar 1 stem of Mini-leaf plant	Out of foam, cut 2 hand shapes about 2" long from wrist to fingertips. Glue the green "cloth" rectangles under the fingers of one hand. This is the author's hand: glue it next to the items she is buying. Glue the other hand to the right. Fill the bag with "dirt" and seal. Glue the dirt, plant, and bottle cap in a row above the text.	



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14	Read this page together.	No tactuals.			
15	Compare the picture on this page to the picture on page 2. How is it different? (There's a plant.)	Small plant with pot and dirt  Bed with blanket Rug Towel Shoes Jump rope Teddy bear Miscellaneous stuff	1 whole soda bottle cap 1 stem of Mini-leaf artificial plant Thin cork, crushed OR decorative moss, OR similar  Same materials as listed for page 2	Trim the plant stem so there is just enough for the leaves to attach to. Squeeze a generous dab of hot glue into the bottle cap. Press the plant stem into the glue and let it cool. Add more glue around the plant base and press some "dirt" into it. Glue the potted plant to the page wherever there is room!  Create the messy room the same way you did on page 2.	