



Teachers Notes;

The Thai Children's Trust supports the fantastic work at The School for the Blind in Pattaya, Thailand. The following lessons have been designed to highlight issues that children attending these schools may face and to celebrate the use of Braille!

Please see Braille alphabet below.

For more information about The Thai Children's Trust please see: www.thaichildrenstrust.org.uk

Introduction.

Discuss with students to imagine what life would be like for a visually impaired person; what daily tasks would become extremely difficult?

Reading would not be possible if it had not been for the invention of Braille; a system of raised dots representing a letter of the alphabet. This allows reader to feel the dots and interpret the letters into words and sentences. Braille was invented in 1821 by Louis Braille.

Tell students that circumstances can get even more complicated if you are very poor and unable to access special schools. In Pattaya there is a special school for blind where they children can get an education. The students at this school use Braille this means that each student can become literate and move towards becoming independent.

Show the video: <http://www.thaichildrenstrust.org.uk/projects/Blind>

Discuss aspects that students saw in the film clip e.g. reading Braille, playing ballgames with a ball that rattled, swimming with only voices to guide, children finding their way around using a stick.

Main activity.

- Introduce the Braille alphabet to the children; explain that each letter is represented by a set of dots. By touching these dots visually impaired people are able to read.
- Practice spelling out a few words by drawing the dots on the board.
- Quickly demonstrate to all students how to punch out their own name in Braille, by pressing through paper with a pencil to make a raised bump. Have students draw out the dots before punching out the holes to avoid mistakes!

Extension

Have students write out their birthday using the Braille numbers.

Plenary

Ask the students:

What sense do they have to use to cross the road? (Touch- using a stick and hearing)



























What sense do they have to use to read? (Touch)

Students can raise awareness by telling others about The School for The Blind and of The Thai Children's Trust.






For more lesson plans please see;



<http://www.thaichildrenstrust.org.uk/getinvolved/lesson-plans-for-teachers>

Braille Alphabet:

									
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
									
k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t
									
u	v	w	x	y	z				

Numbers:

							
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

	
8	9

