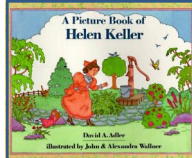


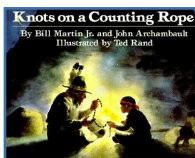
## Books About Blindness for Children and Young People

### Preschool-Grade 2



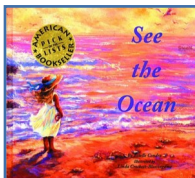
Adler, David A., *A Picture Book of Helen Keller* (1990)

This brief biography, with excellent full-page illustrations, summarizes and highlights the life of one of the most remarkable women in American history, Helen Keller, blind and deaf since infancy.



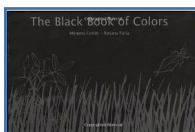
John Archambault and Bill Martin, Jr., *Knots on a Counting Rope* (1997)

A grandfather and his grandson, Boy-Strength-of-Blue-Horses, who is blind, reminisce about the young boy's birth, his first horse, and an exciting horse race.



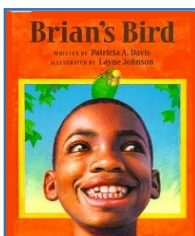
Estelle Condra, *See the Ocean* (2003)

On her family's annual trips to the ocean, Nellie's brothers always have a contest to see who can see the water first, but not Nellie. Readers discover the reason when Nellie is older, and the beach is foggy. The boys cannot see the ocean, but Nellie, who is blind, announces that she can see it in her mind's eye.



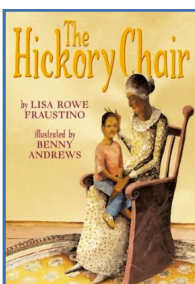
Menena Cottin and Rosana Faria, *The Black Book of Colors* (2008)

Meant to be experienced with the fingers instead of the eyes, this extraordinary book allows sighted readers to experience colors the way blind people do: through the other senses. Black raised line art is set against black pages that invite readers to explore what it's like to read with their fingertips.



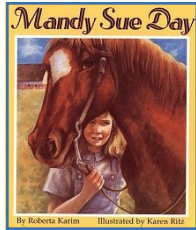
Patricia Anne Davis, *Brian's Bird* (2000)

Brian, who is blind, enjoys taking care of the parakeet he receives on his eighth birthday. When his older brother accidentally lets the bird escape but then helps Brian get it back, the boys feel closer.



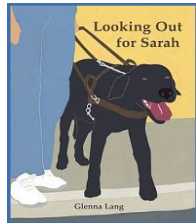
Lisa Rowe Fraustino, *The Hickory Chair* (2001)

Blind since birth, Louis uses all his senses to love his grandmother and feel her love for him. When she dies and Louis seems to have been forgotten in the family treasure hunt Gran arranged in lieu of a will, he must hold on to his knowledge of her love for him. Years later, his conviction is affirmed by his "favorite youngest grandchild's" discovery of a letter in Gran's much-loved hickory chair.



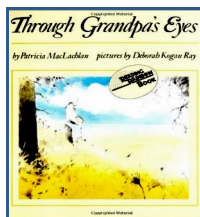
Barbara Karim, *Mandy Sue Day* (2003)

The simple story follows Mandy Sue during an autumn day on the farm as she spends time with her horse and does things many children might enjoy. Only at the story's close, when her little brother offers her a flashlight, does she reveal "I can't see."



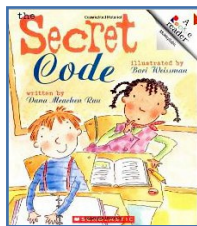
Glenna Lang, *Looking Out for Sarah* (2003)

Based on a true story, this handsome picture book tells of a day in the life of a guide dog, Perry, a black Labrador retriever who looks out for his blind owner, Sarah. Every page shows the close bond between the strong, active woman and the beloved companion who helps her be independent.



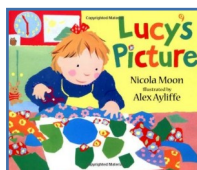
Patricia MacLachlan, *Through Grandpa's Eyes* (1980)

John's grandpa is blind. But Grandpa has his own way of seeing, and for Joh, this makes a day spent with Grandpa an Adventure—of new sounds and smells and ways of doing every day things.



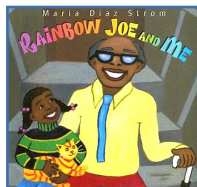
Dana Meachen Rau, *The Secret Code* (1998)

Oscar, a blind first grader, explains to his classmates that his books are written in braille, not a secret code. His teacher shows the students how the dots are like letters in the alphabet. The message that comes across is that reading is fun, whether you read with your eyes or your fingers.



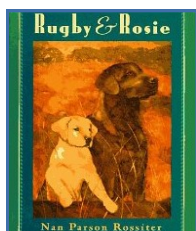
Nicola Moon, *Lucy's Picture* (2010)

Lucy wants to make something special for her grandfather. While the rest of the class paints, she asks to "...stick things on to make a picture." At the end of the day, the special reason for making a textured painting is revealed. Lucy's grandfather is blind. The tactile picture is revealed on one of the final pages.



Maria Diaz Strom, *Rainbow Joe and Me* (1999)

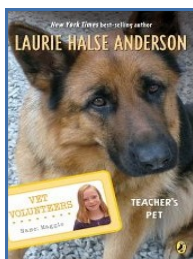
Eloise loves to paint pictures in bright colors that she describes for her elderly blind neighbor Rainbow Joe. Joe tells her he too can make colors sing and one Sunday he surprises her with his music.



Rossiter, Nan Parson. *Rugby & Rosie* (1997)

A young boy and his dog, Rugby, welcome a new puppy that will live with them for a year before leaving to train as a guide dog.

## Grades 3-6



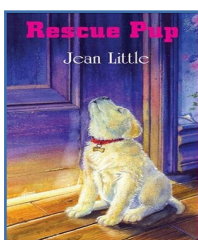
Laurie Halse Anderson, *Teacher's Pet* (2009)

Maggie's still getting used to middle school. One of her teachers is, too—Mr. Carlson, her new science teacher, is blind, and is working with a guide dog for the first time. Scout is a love of a German shepherd and really wants to do his job, but Maggie can tell that Mr. Carlson's still having a hard time. Maybe she can help. . .



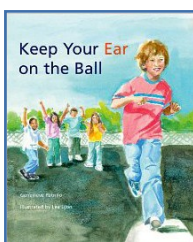
Jean Little, *Forward Shakespeare* (2005)

Tim is enraged by his blindness and wants nothing to do with his dog guide. But he is no match for Shakespeare — the grown-up dog first featured by Jean Little in her book Rescue Dog. Tim's relationship with his guide dog and with his family reveals the challenges young people face in dealing with a disability.



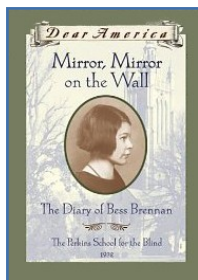
Jean Little, *Rescue Pup* (2003)

Shakespeare is a Seeing Eye puppy. But before the time comes for him to train with a blind person, he must spend six months with a girl who has never learned to love. He does all he can to teach her, but the job places him in some dangerous situations and by the end of the story he has earned the title Rescue Pup.



Genevieve Petrillo, *Keep Your Ear on the Ball* (2007)

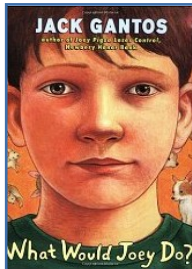
Davey is blind, and he is perfectly capable of doing everything on his own—until he tries to play kickball. After several missed kicks and a trampled base keeper, no one wants Davey on his team. Finally, the children figure out a way to offer help that respects Davey's unique abilities and his desire for freedom. They realize that interdependence can be just as important and rewarding as independence.



Barry Denenberg, *Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: The Diary of Bess Brennan* (2002)

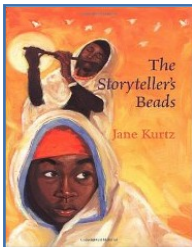
Part of the Dear America series. Tells the story of a girl who loses her eyesight in a sledding accident and enters the Perkins School for the Blind in 1932. At first she fights against learning, especially braille, but gradually she adjusts to the school and her condition. The detail about the education of the visually impaired in the 1930s will keep readers involved.

## Grades 5-8



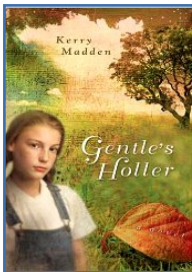
Jack Gantos, *What Would Joey Do?* (2002)

Hyperactive Joey Pizga tries to hold things together as his father shows up on a motorcycle to taunt his mother, he is home-schooled with a hostile blind girl, and his feisty grandmother copes with emphysema.



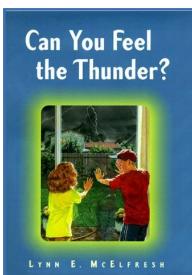
Jane Kurtz, *The Storyteller's Beads* (1998)

When Ethiopian villagers are forced to flee toward Sudan, two young girls from different backgrounds learn to rely on each other. Sahay is from a Christian family, while Rahel is Jewish and blind. Sahay's offer to lead Rachel through the desert is the beginning of their friendship.



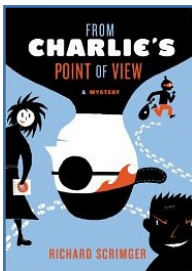
Kerry Madden, *Gentle's Holler* (2005)

Great Smoky Mountains, North Carolina; 1960s. Livy Two worries that love and music cannot feed a family of ten, especially since her father has no steady job, her little sister Gentle is probably blind, and her mother keeps having babies. Then her bossy grandmother comes to visit.



Lynn E. McElfresh, *Can You Feel the Thunder?* (1999)

If seventh-grader Mic Parsons doesn't pass mathematics, his parents won't let him try out for the baseball team. Mic has mixed feelings about his fifteen-year-old deaf and blind sister Stephenie, but appreciates her in a new way after she helps Mic learn fractions.

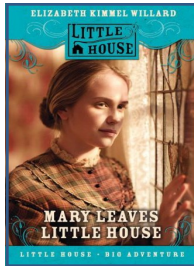


Richard Scrimger, *From Charlie's Point of View* (2007)

Charlie's dad is accused of robbing neighborhood cash machines, but Charlie is convinced he is innocent. With his friend Bernadette, he sets out to prove Dad's innocence. What's special here is intrepid Charlie, blind from birth.



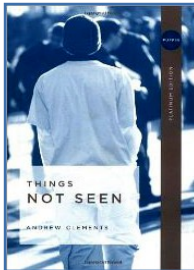
THE MUSEUM of the AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE for the BLIND  
Books About Blindness for Children and Young People



Elizabeth Kimmel Willard, *Mary Ingalls on Her Own*, (2008)

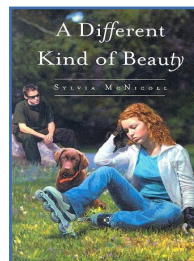
In her books about growing up on the American frontier Laura Ingalls Wilder described how she served as her sister Mary's "eyes" to the world after Mary lost her sight. In this fictional treatment, readers learn Mary's story after she left the "Little Town on the Prairie" to attend the Iowa School for the Blind in 1881.

## Young Adult



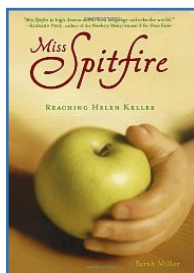
Andrew Clements, *Things Not Seen* (2002)

When fifteen-year-old Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, his self-perception changes radically. Alicia, his new blind friend, empathizes with him because she often feels invisible yet she is the one who helps the most to restore Bobby's physical state.



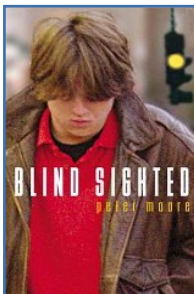
Sylvia McNicoll, *A Different Kind of Beauty* (2003)

Elizabeth Kerr, a freshman, is raising a future guide dog. Kyle, 16, is blind due to diabetes. Although the two attend the same high school, they have never met. Elizabeth struggles with having to give up Beauty, and Kyle struggles with his recent loss of sight.



Sarah Miller, *Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller* (2007)

At age twenty-one, partially-blind, lonely but spirited Annie Sullivan travels from Massachusetts to Alabama to try and teach six-year-old Helen Keller, deaf and blind since age two, self-discipline and communication skills. She remains with Helen most of her adult life.



Peter Moore, *Blind Sighted* (2001)

Eleventh-grader Kirk Tobak is moody and bored with school, his alcoholic mother, and druggie friends. His job reading for an independent young blind woman, with whom he discusses his problems, gives Kirk new insights. For senior high readers.