



Tactile book gifting

Age 5+

Resource created by Scottish Book Trust

scottishbooktrust.com



All children learn and develop in different ways. In order to inspire a lifelong love of stories, it is important to find the right books, and the best ways to share them, for each individual child. To help children on their reading journey, Scottish Book Trust is delighted to gift *Getting Ready* to every child aged 5-12 in a special school or special needs setting in Scotland.

About *Getting Ready*

This book is a fantastic resource for schools and families. Developed by Child's Play in consultation with children, families and organisations working with blind and partially sighted children, *Getting Ready* contains high-contrast images, tactile features and Braille-style numbering. It is suitable for children with a variety of additional support needs, and is the perfect book to support exploring and establishing routines.

Videos and audio versions

You can watch a video of families sharing and enjoying the book on our website: go to scottishbooktrust.com/asn and click on **Tactile Books videos**. You can share this video with parents and carers before or after gifting the tactile books to give them ideas and tips for reading *Getting Ready* at home.

You can also listen to an audio version of *Getting Ready* on our website: go to scottishbooktrust.com/asn and click on **Tactile books for children with additional support needs**. Parents and carers can use the audio version at home alongside the physical copy. You could share the audio version in school after the books have been gifted to create a link between home and school.

Key messages for book gifting

The books will arrive at your school in March 2021, and we recommend gifting the titles in March or April.

It is also important that you use the books in school before sending them home. This will ensure that children are familiar with the story and will be excited to take their own copy home.

Here are some key messages to share with parents and carers. This will help them get the most out of the books:

- Encourage your child to take an active role in exploring the story through touching the textures and looking at the bright illustrations.

- Don't worry about getting to the end. Turn the pages back and forth and go at a pace that suits you both.
- Again! Repeat the story as many times as your child likes.
- Use toys, music or other props to help bring the story to life.
- Hearing your voice and sharing a book will support your child's communication skills. Watch their reactions to see what they like best.

Think about how you can share these messages with parents and carers. If your school uses social media, you could share these messages on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube, or on your chosen digital learning platform.

Further links

Scottish Book Trust are hosting a webinar on nurturing a reading culture for children with additional support needs on Tuesday 30 March from 4.30pm–5.30pm. The session will include further advice for gifting the tactile books, as well as details of upcoming online events as part of Creative Stories for Everyone, an inclusive festival of art and stories for schools and families. Register to attend at scottishbooktrust.com/clpl

Scottish Book Trust also offers tips to help parents share books with children with additional support needs and a range of resources on our website at scottishbooktrust.com/asn

Contact us

If you require more copies of *Getting Ready*, or have been given the incorrect number, please contact schools@scottishbooktrust.com as soon as possible after receiving your books.