

## Annotated Bibliography

### Secondary Sources

#### Websites:

**“Benefits of Braille.” National Braille Week, 2019,  
[www.royalblind.org/national-braille-week/about-braille/benefits-of-braille](http://www.royalblind.org/national-braille-week/about-braille/benefits-of-braille).**

This website really helped me to convey the importance of Braille and how it affects the blind. I used this source in my long term impact. I chose this source because I found it easy to understand, yet still written in very good detail. I think that Braille is a system that is starting to be overlooked because more accessible technology is now being made for the blind. This website helps show me that Braille is very important and has benefits that technology doesn't have.

**"Braille." *Britannica School*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 7 Feb. 2012.  
[school.eb.com/levels/high/article/Braille/16176](http://school.eb.com/levels/high/article/Braille/16176). Accessed 6 Sep. 2018.**

This website on Braille helped me to understand the basic knowledge of Braille. It also provided some information of how Louis got the idea for Braille. I chose this website because it gave me the basic knowledge I needed to be able to conduct my research. This website told me about how Braille is a code for letters that can be read by anyone not just the sighted. I think it is important to note that even though sighted people don't need Braille, it is important to know about the system.

**Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. “Braille.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 11 Feb. 2019, [www.britannica.com/topic/Braille-writing-system](http://www.britannica.com/topic/Braille-writing-system).**

This website gave me a summary of how braille was created. I used this in my build-up section because it helps show what led to the idea Louis had for Braille. In the 1800s, a young blind man named Louis Braille triumphantly created a system for communication. Louis Braille got the idea of Braille from Captain Charles Barbier. Captain Charles Barbier created the system night-writing after serving during the French Revolution. What Louis did, helped so many of the blind learn literacy and be able to live more independent lives.

**Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. “Louis Braille.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 2 Jan. 2019,  
[www.britannica.com/biography/Louis-Braille](http://www.britannica.com/biography/Louis-Braille).**

I used this website when I began my research to understand the basics of Louis' life. I was able to then research more in depth about Louis and the system Braille. Louis became blind at a very young age and then went on to create a groundbreaking system that drastically transformed the blind community. As technology becomes more popular, more of the blind are resorting to accessible iPhones and iPads instead of learning literacy through Braille.

**Geology.com. "France Map and Satellite Image." Geology, 2005, [geology.com/world/france-satellite-image.shtml](http://geology.com/world/france-satellite-image.shtml).**

I used this website/photo to help me understand what France looked like. I also used this for my map. The reason I included a map is because Louis left his family to go to a blind school and I wanted to see how far away Louis had to live from his family. Louis left Coupvray, his home town, when he was only ten years old. Louis headed to the Royal Institute for Blind Youth so he could have an education unlike most blind people of his time. While Louis was at the school, he would write letters to his family and tell them about life at the school.

**"History of the blind." *Britannica School, Encyclopædia Britannica*, 11 Feb. 2015. [school.eb.com/levels/high/article/history-of-the-blind/609767](http://school.eb.com/levels/high/article/history-of-the-blind/609767). Accessed 6 Sep. 2018.**

Using this website I was able to get background information. It told me what life was like for the blind before Louis. I used the website because it helped me understand the severity of the visually impaireds situation. During the French Revolution many blind people had no access to education and would end up as beggars on the streets. During this time, Napoleon sent many blind people into asylums with people who had other disabilities. This act of discrimination towards the blind is often overlooked and unthought of despite the tragedy of this event.

**"Louis Braille." *Britannica School, Encyclopædia Britannica*, 1 Dec. 2017. [school.eb.com/levels/high/article/Louis-Braille/16177](http://school.eb.com/levels/high/article/Louis-Braille/16177). Accessed 6 Sep. 2018.**

This website gave me a full run down of Louis' life. I used this website mostly for dates so I could know what happened before and after Louis Braille died. It was very helpful when I went to make my timeline because using this website I was able to know which dates were of most importance. I think that this website, combined with a few others, covered most of the significant events in the life of Louis.

**Mervosh, Sarah. "Lego Is Making Braille Bricks. They May Give Blind Literacy a Needed Lift." *The New York Times, The New York Times*, 27 Apr. 2019, [www.nytimes.com/2019/04/27/health/lego-braille-bricks.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/27/health/lego-braille-bricks.html).**

This article was very helpful because it explained the newest advancement of Braille. I used this source in my long-term impact. Lego recently came out and showed their newest design, the Braille Lego. This website tells all about the unemployment rates of the Blind and the low number of people who know Braille in the blind community. Lego wants to help this problem. Lego's design is made up of the same material. The only change is the small cylinders on the top. The classic Lego cube usually consists of 6 cylinders in 2 rows of 3 side by side which happens to be almost identical to a full Braille cell. Lego is now taking advantage of this and using their toy to help teach hundreds of kids who will desperately need it when they grow up.

## **Photographs:**

***Louis Braille/ Comm.Sheet 100 Anniversary. Fine Art. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016.***  
**quest.eb.com/search/109\_140818/1/109\_140818/cite. Accessed 14 May 2019.**

I used this photo to help me in my long term impact and my timeline to show how Louis wasn't given respect until after he died. I also used this photo to see how people would honor him after he died many times. Before his death, he and his system were given no recognition. This photo made me realize how sad it must have been to have all Louis's hard work go unnoticed and be unused. A short while after Louis died of tuberculosis, his work was finally put to use. Now his code is a necessity to many blind people today. It is truly sad though that now 1 in 10 blind people know Braille even though it is unbelievably helpful when reading, writing, learning literacy and more. I also used this photo so I could understand who was honoring Louis and who wasn't. I wanted to know who were his enemies and who were his friends. I could use this photo to help me accomplish that.

## **Illustration/Drawing:**

**Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Braille." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 11 Feb. 2019,**  
**www.britannica.com/topic/Braille-writing-system/media/77257/62261.**

This illustration helped me to understand how to learn Braille. When I tried to learn Braille I used this illustration as a guide. When a sighted person is using Braille, I found that it was common for them to use illustrations such as this one to remember the system.

***Feeling for Words . Fine Art. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016.***  
**quest.eb.com/search/108\_261264/1/108\_261264/cite. Accessed 14 May 2019.**

I used this fine art piece to show the respect some people have for the system Braille. I loved whenever I saw different pieces of artwork that honored Louis, because I know how long a piece of artwork can take. I very much appreciate the respect they have for such a magnificent man. I think the honor that he gets is much less than what he deserves, but the artwork I see is definitely up to his genius.

***LOUIS BRAILLE (1809-1852). - French teacher of the blind. Undated lithograph after a daguerreotype taken shortly after his death in 1852. Fine Art. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016.***  
**quest.eb.com/search/140\_1708192/1/140\_1708192/cite. Accessed 6 Sep 2018.**

This lithograph showed me the physical appearance of Louis. I chose this photo because it shows colors and clothing he might wear. This photo shows me how important Louis Braille was

because of how difficult a lithograph is I know that a person took the time and money to make a lithograph for Louis demonstrating his value to society.

**Books:**

**Aller, Susan Bivin., and Madeline Donaldson. Louis Braille. Lerner, 2009.**

I used this story to help get an idea of what was happening during Louis's life so I could have a bit of context and some background information. What I found out was that the French Revolution affected Louis and the French Army occupied Louis's home and town. Louis found it harder to learn how to navigate his town when soldiers always pushed him aside and would not care about Louis or his new disability. In fact, Napoleon didn't like the blind and before Louis was born even sent the blind into asylums.

**Birch, Beverley. Louis Braille: the Inventor of a Way to Read and Write That Has Helped Millions of Blind People Communicate with the World. Gareth Stevens Children's Books, 1989.**

This book helped me to see the intricacies of Louis's life and all the little details behind it. This helped me branch out my details and make Louis's story more relatable. This book gave me many facts and made me even more excited about my project and Louis's life. This book helped me know about journey and I incorporated into my presentation. I love how this book describes Louis when it says, "The inventor of a way to read and write that has helped millions of blind people communicate with the world..." I think that this sentence sums up this extraordinary person. I used this biography of Louis Braille for my timeline. I used this source because it had a lot of important events listed inside.

**Bryant, Jennifer, and Boris Kulikov. Six Dots: a Story of Young Louis Braille. National Braille Press, 2017.**

I used this book to help with my story. This book was different from the other books I read because it told different facts about Louis in story form. This really helped me prepare my presentation because I wanted to bring a story element into my presentation instead of just listing the facts. This story was very engaging.

**Freedman, Russell, and Kate Kiesler. Out of Darkness: the Story of Louis Braille. Scholastic, 1997.**

This biography of Louis Braille taught me about his personal life and was able to walk me through each huge moment of his life. The reason I chose this book was because I found that it had amazing detail about how Louis coped with becoming blind. This book covered so much.

**Keeler, Stephen. Louis Braille. Queensland Braille Writing Association, 2009.**

I really enjoyed this story because it was a picture book. Although picture book sounds childish, it actually helped me to capture the scene and helped me to add visual details to my work. I wanted to be able to bring this amazing story to life and this story helped me to do that. By pulling somebody into the story of Braille, I was able to bring awareness towards it's slow extinction. I was able to talk about how technology is replacing Braille and lowering literacy among the blind. My research shows people the advantages and the danger and threat technology has on the blind blind.

**Kent, Deborah. What Is Braille? Enslow Elementary, 2012.**

I used this book in my impacts, thesis, and heart. It told me about a girl who learns Braille at school and now grown, she is living a fairly normal life because of this. This book told some of the fundamental facts about Braille, so I actually used this in my background as well.

**Star, Fleur. Animals: Knowledge You Can Touch. DK Publishing, 2016.**

I used this book as a part of my display to show what different books are available to the blind. I went to my public library to find books written in Braille but my library only had around 5 books in total. I found this fact surprising and imagined how awful it must be for the blind living in my city because they can only pick out 5 books that are all written for younger ages.

**Star, Fleur. On the Move Knowledge You Can Touch. DK, 2016.**

I used this book on my display to show what a Braille book looks like. I wanted the book to be an in person diagram showing you what a regular braille book may look like. I loved how this book used so many different textures that made it so the blind could know the shapes of different things. I think the book was creative and they inspired my sister to try and may a book similar to it.

**Woodhouse, Jayne. Louis Braille. Heinemann Library, 2002.**

I used this book in my research to help get one of my tragedies. I really liked how the book described how Louis became blind because it really helps you picture the scenario. When Louis becomes blind, some books will skip over the scene or barely mention it. I see that the story can get gruesome sometimes, but it is such a pivotal moment. From the moment the incident occurred Louis's life was changed forever and so was the world's.

**Videos:**

**Bernard, Mary Alex, director. Can Braille Survive in a Smartphone World?**

**<https://www.inquirer.com>, The Philadelphia Inquirer, Daily News and Philly.com, 30 Aug. 2018,**

**[www.philly.com/philly/health/can-braille-survive-in-a-smartphone-world-20180830.html](http://www.philly.com/philly/health/can-braille-survive-in-a-smartphone-world-20180830.html).**

I used this video/website for my long-term impact. This source helped support my thesis that with the technological advancements being made, Braille is needed more than ever. Technology doesn't help teach the blind literacy, but even so more and more people are relying on it. The unemployment rate keeps rising for the blind and we aren't making a change. This source helps support that claim.

**Dapple, Dap, director. The Braille Alphabet- Louis Braille. YouTube, YouTube, 28 Apr. 2013, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCwtd7tU-O4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCwtd7tU-O4).**

I used this video for my background section because it does a good job explaining Louis early life. I think the video was helpful because not only did it include visuals, but gave background noises that gave the impression that you were there in the story. This feeling made it easier for me to understand what I had been reading. Because I enjoyed this video so much, it led me to watching more. I think the videos were the best form of research because I am a visual learner.

**Experience, The Tommy Edison, director. How Blind People Write Braille. YouTube, YouTube, 29 May 2012, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hj51UuxwjaE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hj51UuxwjaE).**

I used this video to help me understand more about how Braille works. In the video and blind man goes on to speak about his Perkins Brailler. A Perkins Brailler is basically a typewriter that lets you write in Braille. I liked how in the video the man did not seem different or act different aside from the fact that his eyes were always closed. The reason I liked that he wasn't different is because I want people to feel comfortable around the blind and talk to the blind. The video was very helpful and explained that there are many different signs to indicate different things. I felt a connection with the video as well because the boy who inspired me to do NHD on Braille uses a Perkins Brailler, so I felt connected to the video.

**Kidz, Peekaboo, director. Invention of BRAILLE. YouTube, YouTube, 28 Apr. 2017, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hzPIKmCHUA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hzPIKmCHUA).**

I used this video to help me understand more about Louis's system. The video talks about Louis's creativity. It is inspiring how Louis was able to create a code for the blind at only age 16. Louis showed everyone that anyone can overcome a hardship and if we want to, we can also help others overcome theirs as well. Louis is a hero to me and after watching this video, I felt even more honored to be doing a project on him.

**Lesson, In One, director. YouTube. YouTube, YouTube, 7 Oct. 2010, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=sqQ3gdE7ks0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sqQ3gdE7ks0).**

I used this video for my short term impact to see how easy and effective Braille is and was. I found it very easy to learn Braille with this video and judging by the comments, so did many others. I

was upset that they never said Louis name and instead called him a French teenager. It makes me upset whenever people don't cite Louis name because he is the one who invented this incredibly impactful and helpful system.

**Ncbvi, director. Learning Braille. YouTube, YouTube, 14 Apr. 2011,  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIfyHpil\\_no](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIfyHpil_no).**

I used this video to help me to learn Braille. Braille is made of a six dot cell composed of two vertical lines of three dots side by side. This system was based off of night-writing and system of writing made by Captain Charles Barbier an army officer in the French Revolution. Captain Barbier's system was made with a total of 12 dots and the symbols stood for sounds not letters. Louis improved the system of Barbier's in private. Louis finished at age 16 when he showed the system to everyone they didn't approve. Louis was upset and decided to keep pushing his system. Louis became a teacher and taught kids the system Braille.

**TED-Ed, director. YouTube. YouTube, YouTube, 7 Mar. 2017,  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=cyfxQ6sdaIE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cyfxQ6sdaIE).**

I used this video to help me understand how Braille was created. I used this video in my build-up section because it talks about Captain Charles Barbier. Captain Barbier was an army officer during the Napoleonic Wars. When Barbier had to write and read letters he always was at a risk of being caught because he had to use light to read and write. Captain Barbier thought he could fix the system and invented night-writing. Night-writing used a series of dots that represented a sound. The system was a success and Barbier went to the Royal Institute for Blind Youth to see if his system could replace embossed letters. Embossed letters were the form the blind children had been using, but embossed letters had flaws and the blind were looking for something new.

### **Primary Sources**

#### **Photograph:**

***Braille bingo cards are held by Hazel Jarvis of Mississauga who heads Peel Association for the Blind. The Erindale-Mississauga Lions Club provides special bingo table for the blind at games in Sheridan Mall it sponsors every Tuesday night. Special cards were obtained from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. Among projects to get members into the sighted world is five-pin bowling which begins this week... Photograph. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016.***

I loved looking at this photograph because it helped me show people that the blind are the same as us in every way besides sight. In an interview I did, I was also able to bring that feeling to my board when the boy said that he wished he had more video games that were accessible to the blind. This gave me a new appreciation to blind since I never realized that they didn't have fun games or toys that were interesting to them because of all sighted people's lack of observation to the blind.

***Braille Cards. Photographer. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. quest.eb.com/search/115\_2747534/1/115\_2747534/cite. Accessed 14 May 2019.***

Similar to another photo I have listed, I used this to shed light on the fact that blind people are still humans and just want to be treated the same as everybody else. Many people think that to really feel comfortable around a blind person we have to learn about their disability first but in most cases that is not right. Blind people want to have people who come up to them and talk to them because, due to their lack of eyesight, they can't come over to someone and make conversation.

***Braille competition. Photograph. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 31 Aug 2017. quest.eb.com/search/132\_1494746/1/132\_1494746/cite. Accessed 14 May 2019.***

I used this photo to help with my interview so I could show an opposing side to my argument that Braille is still being taught today. Braille competitions were created to help young children to learn the amazing code of Braille. I love that there is such a thing as a Braille competition because not only does it teach children something new, but it also makes it easier for blind to talk to sighted children. It gives the kids more comfort around the blind.

***Braille Elevator Button. Photograph. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 31 Aug 2017. quest.eb.com/search/139\_1864304/1/139\_1864304/cite. Accessed 14 May 2019.***

I used this photograph to help show how the world is remembering the blind community. I used this in my research to get a background idea of how hard life was without the things blind people are given today. This really put things into perspective of how hard Louis's life was as a blind child in the 1800s. Louis would've had no signs in Braille, no labels in Braille, but most importantly no books in Braille. It is crazy to think about how he didn't even have his own system to use, he had nothing but hard-to-read embossed letters.

***Braille Machine. Photograph. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. quest.eb.com/search/118\_806372/1/118\_806372/cite. Accessed 14 May 2019.***

I used this photo in my long term impact to show the technological advancements made to Braille. Although a typewriter may not seem advanced nowadays, it was back then due to the fact that before the typewriter, Braille was handwritten and took a while to write. This typewriter was just the tip of the iceberg for the blind and their technologies. Now the blind have accessible iPhones and iPads which in some cases include Braille. It just goes to show what we can do when we work together to fix a problem.



***Braille on Pharmaceutical packaging. Photograph. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. [quest.eb.com/search/132\\_1369995/1/132\\_1369995/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/132_1369995/1/132_1369995/cite). Accessed 14 May 2019.***

This photo helped me to see how Braille is being used in everyday life. When looking at this photo it made me realize how much we use eyesight in our daily lives. I never thought about how some people couldn't see the medicine labels on the medicine bottles until I looked at this photograph. This photo also shows me how much of a necessity Braille is to everyday life for the blind which is why it concerns me that only 1 in 10 blind people know Braille.

***Braille. Photography. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. [quest.eb.com/search/132\\_1261893/1/132\\_1261893/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/132_1261893/1/132_1261893/cite). Accessed 14 May 2019.***

This photograph helped show me the basics of the Braille system. Looking at this system it amazes me that Louis was only a young teen when he invented this code. When looking at this photo, I also compared the code to Captain Charles Barbier's system. Captain Barbier created a code called Night Writing while in the army. Louis actually got his idea for Braille when looking at Captain Barbier's system. Captain Barbier was furious when Louis told him about the improvements he wanted to make on Night Writing.

***Braille Sheet Music. Photography. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. [quest.eb.com/search/139\\_1917088/1/139\\_1917088/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/139_1917088/1/139_1917088/cite). Accessed 14 May 2019.***

I included this photo in my research because a huge hobby of Louis's was music. He loved to play instruments and was very good at it too. Louis made the code Braille in secret and while making letters in Braille, he also converted music into Braille. This extra conversion inspired me because even though he had already made a language for the blind, he went a step further and made music as well. I was intrigued when looking at this photo because I play an instrument and I wonder how the blind read the sheet music and still play the instrument.

***Braille Typewriter. Photography. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. [quest.eb.com/search/139\\_1930109/1/139\\_1930109/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/139_1930109/1/139_1930109/cite). Accessed 14 Feb 2019.***

This photo showed me a recent day achievement, the Braille typewriter. I used this photo to show that the blind are being included more and more all because of Louis. It is interesting for me to see this photo because my friend owns a Braille typewriter and it seems so confusing to me. I think the typewriter is a better way of writing Braille because it is faster than regular handwriting Braille. I think that the typewriter is one of the best improvements made to Braille.

***Brisket. LEGO to Produce Braille Kits. 2019.***

I used this source to show what Lego Braille blocks look like.

**Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Braille." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 11 Feb. 2019, [www.britannica.com/topic/Braille-writing-system/media/77257/163142](http://www.britannica.com/topic/Braille-writing-system/media/77257/163142).**

This photograph I used to look at the intricacies of Braille. Braille has been proven very difficult to read and being a sighted person it is even more difficult. I tried to learn Braille and the main difficulty comes in when I realized that my fingertips weren't sensitive enough to be able to read the code. There is a technique that people who know Braille use to make their fingertips more sensitive. The technique sighted people can also use, but we will need a specific tool.

***Educational globe for the blind . Fine Art. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. [quest.eb.com/search/108\\_245774/1/108\\_245774/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/108_245774/1/108_245774/cite). Accessed 14 May 2019.***

I used this photo for multiple different reasons in my research. I mainly used this photo though to show the strides being taken to give the blind a proper education. When Louis was a young child most blind children weren't given the choice of education. I look at this photo and it makes me proud that we are doing things to help the blind have different jobs and the smarts needed to live an independent life. I also used this photo to show the use of Braille in the classroom. Braille is a huge advantage when it comes to teaching the blind and this photo shows that. I also used this photo to show that blind and sighted are alike even though it may feel as if the two groups are very different. The only difference between the globe in the photo and a sighted persons globe is Braille which isn't a huge difference if you think about it.

**"Guide Dog Sign - Blind Man Symbol Signs, SKU: K-9133." RoadTrafficSigns.com, 2019, [www.roadtrafficsigns.com/signs/guide-dog-with-blind-man-symbol-sign/sku-k-9133.aspx](http://www.roadtrafficsigns.com/signs/guide-dog-with-blind-man-symbol-sign/sku-k-9133.aspx).**

This sign helped show me how far we've come with respecting the blind. This sign can be bought online so drivers know that a visually impaired person lives near and to watch for blind pedestrians. The blind deserve respect and this sign is a definite step towards that. I liked this sign because I think it shows the future for the visually impaired. It shows the awareness that we will finally have towards the blind community. It also shows the respect that the sighted are trying to give the blind. Finally this sign shows how the sighted are starting to feel more comfortable around the blind.

**Harris & Ewing, photographer. *BLIND, THE. BRAILLE ALPHABET AT LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND. INSTITUTE OF THE BLIND*. Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <[www.loc.gov/item/2016864181/](http://www.loc.gov/item/2016864181/)>.**

I used this photo to see what the system Braille looks like. It shows me every English letter written in Braille. It was helpful in understanding how the visually impaired read Braille. I think that the system is a code that we will be able to use in the sighted community as well so that way everyone can talk to everybody, no matter the disability one of the people may have.

***HELEN KELLER (1880-1968). - American author and lecturer. Photographed in 1905.. Fine Art. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. quest.eb.com/search/140\_1652666/1/140\_1652666/cite. Accessed 14 Feb 2019.***

This photo helped me to understand the person who gave recognition to Louis Braille, Helen Keller. I added this photo to show what might be a familiar face to some in hopes of connecting it with Louis Braille. I think it is important to show the huge impact Louis had on the blind by showing someone very famous that recognized Louis, in this case, Helen Keller. Helen Keller made a speech for a celebration honoring Louis and talks graciously about him

I used this photo to help me in my short-term impact and my timeline to show how Louis wasn't given respect until after he died. This photo made me realize how sad it must have been to have all Louis's hard work go unnoticed and be unused. A short while after Louis died of tuberculosis, his work was finally put to use. Now his code is a necessity to many blind people today. It is truly sad though that now 1 in 10 blind people know Braille even though it is unbelievably helpful when reading, writing, learning literacy and more.

***Louis Braille. Photographer. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. quest.eb.com/search/115\_2750285/1/115\_2750285/cite. Accessed 6 Sep 2018.***

This photo helped me understand how others saw Louis. I also found that in this photo his eyes are closed which helps remind me of the tragic incident that took place when he was only three. This photo shows me how any of us can do something extraordinary because when I look at this photo I see a regular man, the only catch, he did an amazing thing. Louis Braille spent years working on a system and even after all the hate he received, he still pushed his system so that way all the blind could use this amazing system.

***Piano Lesson At A Blind School. Photography. Britannica ImageQuest, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016. quest.eb.com/search/115\_3837330/1/115\_3837330/cite. Accessed 14 May 2019.***

I used this photo because I wanted to show how like Louis, some blind children enjoy playing music. Because of the common interest of music that many blind children share Louis invented Braille in music form as well. Without Louis, this picture would not exist and music lessons for the blind would not be a thing. This relates to me because the boy who inspired me to do this project can play the piano and it makes me happy that he can play and it is all thanks to Louis.

***quest.eb.com/search/182\_742028/1/182\_742028/cite. Accessed 14 May 2019.***

This photo helped to show me how we, sighted people, are starting to include the blind community and help them live an easy life. Being blind is not an easy hurdle to get over but when everyone is trying to help others we can all help the blind be a part of our normal everyday life. I think this

photo just shows that if we all had care in hearts to help, we could do amazing things. This photo inspired me to include everyone and try to be comfortable around others.

**“A Sample Letter - Louis Braille: A Touch of Genius.” *NBP Learn About Braille: Who Is Louis Braille*, 2019, [www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/braille/louis/lb\\_sampleletter.html](http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/braille/louis/lb_sampleletter.html).**

This letter gave me an idea of how Louis acts. In this letter he is talking to his friend about his travels and how he is doing. I used this letter so I could have a better understanding of how he acted toward others. I wanted to get a full understanding of Louis and the way he went about his life. With this understanding I could do so much better telling the amazing story of Louis Braille and his amazing creation. This letter also helps me realize the setting of his life.

***'This is Braille', Royal National Institute for the Blind Information Sheet, c 1980s..***  
**Photograph. *Britannica ImageQuest*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016.**  
**[quest.eb.com/search/102\\_553947/1/102\\_553947/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/102_553947/1/102_553947/cite). Accessed 14 May 2019.**

I used this photo to help write my thesis because in this photo instead of using Louis Braille's real name it refers to Louis as a "...frenchman." I thought this was horrible and did not give proper credit to Louis and his incredible work. I think this improper credit which I have noticed multiple times during my research is caused by the fact that Louis died before his system became a success. It is heartbreaking.

***'This is moon', RNIB information sheet, c 1980s..*** Photograph. ***Britannica ImageQuest***,  
**Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016.**  
**[quest.eb.com/search/102\\_549529/1/102\\_549529/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/102_549529/1/102_549529/cite). Accessed 14 May 2019.**

I used this photo to see one of Braille's main competitors the system known as Moon. Moon is a similar code for the blind as Braille. The difference of the two systems is that some people claim that the moon is easier to read than Braille although that statement can be debated. In the photograph it says, "Moon letters are made of raised shapes, based on the standard alphabet." This statement makes me assume that the system is a sort of combination between embossed letters and Braille.

***Using a braille tape to measure the deck of the Dart class yacht he is building; Hugh Russel; blind national director of employment for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind; gets some supervision from his 4-month-old Labrador retriever; Charlie. The CNIB is one of Metro's 78 United Appeal agencies...*** Photograph. ***Britannica ImageQuest***,  
**Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016.**  
**[quest.eb.com/search/182\\_742002/1/182\\_742002/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/182_742002/1/182_742002/cite). Accessed 14 May 2019.**

I used this photo to help me with my knowledge of what the world is doing to help the blind. Looking at this photo I was interested on how many different products there are in Braille. I ended up stumbling across dice, uno cards, and a few books. I displayed these items in front of my board to show them off and to help others have the same interest that I have about different blind products.

## **Illustration/Drawings:**

**Louis Braille / Collector's card. Fine Art. *Britannica ImageQuest*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 25 May 2016.  
[quest.eb.com/search/109\\_165139/1/109\\_165139/cite](http://quest.eb.com/search/109_165139/1/109_165139/cite). Accessed 14 May 2019.**

I used this photo and put it on my display because I wanted to show his impact he left on the world. I wanted to show the importance of how he helped the blind live in the world of the sighted. He changed so many people's lives and impacted them so much that he has a collector's card of him. He helped so many and I really wanted to show that through this photo. Louis created the system of Braille which gave the blind a way to read and write.

## **Newspaper Articles:**

**National Endowment for the Humanities. "Evening Star. [Volume] (Washington, D.C.) 1854-1972, April 05, 1908, Page 8, Image 52." *News about Chronicling America RSS*, Roanoke Pub. Co., 1908,  
[chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1908-04-05/ed-1/seq-52/](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1908-04-05/ed-1/seq-52/).**

This newspaper article covered many subjects over the blind and told me about a machine for the blind, how blind students work in schools and accomplishments such as making a newspaper written in Braille. I used this source because it told me about how more people wanted to help the blind and in what ways they did that.

**National Endowment for the Humanities. "Evening Star. [Volume] (Washington, D.C.) 1854-1972, December 26, 1937, Image 86." *News about Chronicling America RSS*, W.D. Wallach & Hope,  
[chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1937-12-26/ed-1/seq-86/](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1937-12-26/ed-1/seq-86/).**

I used this newspaper article for my short term impact because it talks all about how children are starting to learn Braille thanks to Louis. The newspaper article I chose mainly consists of photos of children reading Braille. I like this article because I shows the beginning stages of Braille. It is very cool to see what Braille was then and what it is now. The article also speaks on how the blind children get their fingers to be sensitive since that is one of the main hardships of learning Braille.

**National Endowment for the Humanities. "Evening Star. [Volume] (Washington, D.C.) 1854-1972, March 17, 1935, Page F-3, Image 55." *News about Chronicling America RSS*, Roanoke Pub. Co., 1935,  
[chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1935-03-17/ed-1/seq-55/](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1935-03-17/ed-1/seq-55/).**

This newspaper article showed me the strides taken to help incorporate the blind into the world of the sighted. I used this article because it taught me about how Braille books have been added to the library. It showed how much of an impact Louis had.

## **Interviews:**

### **Brouwer, Raquel. "Bryce Lippe." Telephone Call with Author, May 21, 2019.**

This was an interview with a 21 year old who was born with cerebral palsy and a detached retina. Bryce helped confirm my thesis when he explained to me that when he was younger he learned Braille, but due to the lack of Braille-teaching teachers, he stopped his education pretty early on. Bryce explained to me that because of his cerebral palsy he has always found it hard to read Braille but interestingly he admits to being fairly good at writing in Braille. It was very interesting to hear from someone who not only is blind, but also has another disability that can make being blind even more of a struggle.

### **Brouwer, Raquel. "Mattix Garrett" Message from Author, May 21, 2019.**

This was an interview with a 12 year old who was born with optic nerve hypoplasia. I used this interview for my long-term impact and my quotes. Mattix inspired me to do this project on the blind, so I thought that it would only be right to interview him. Mattix was very helpful and told me all about the different products he uses and the different types of Braille that he knows. Mattix was very inspiring and I was so glad that he agreed to interview with me because what he said gave me knowledge that most of the sources I looked at could not tell me - what it is like to live without sight. Although his life didn't sound as wonderful as a sighted person, he still drew connections that made me feel closer to the blind community. He listed the struggles of being blind and told me about the lack of products out there for the blind compared to the sighted persons products. Overall, Mattix made me become aware of the struggles of a blind person's life, but also their similarities to a sighted person's life.

### **Brouwer, Raquel. "Tricia Netzley." Message from the Author, 6 June 2019.**

This was an interview with a middle aged woman who was a student at the same school I attend. I just learned about her and reached out for an interview. From her, I learned all about the assumptions about blind people. She said that many people don't realize she is just a normal person who can do normal things.