## How to...



## Write a letter in braille

## What you need

- A braille alphabet
- A piece of white card
- A pencil or pen
- Glue
- Lentils
- Clear nail varnish

World Braille Day was celebrated earlier this month on 4 January. Braille is a writing system for people who are blind or visually impaired. It uses raised dots to form letters that you can feel with your fingers to read words. You can either send your braille note to someone who is visually impaired or for someone to read with their eyes closed.

## **Instructions**

This simple note will help you learn braille. First think of a short message. Now use the braille alphabet on this page to translate your message into the correct dot pattern on paper (you can learn how to do numbers at tinyurl. com/TWJ-braillealphabet). Draw the black dots onto a clean piece of card, making sure you leave space between each letter and word. Put a little glue on one side of a lentil – this can be fiddly – and stick it on a dot. Repeat until all dots are covered with lentils. Once the glue is dry, paint over the note with clear nail varnish. Now send it on to a friend and perhaps they will send you a braille reply.

