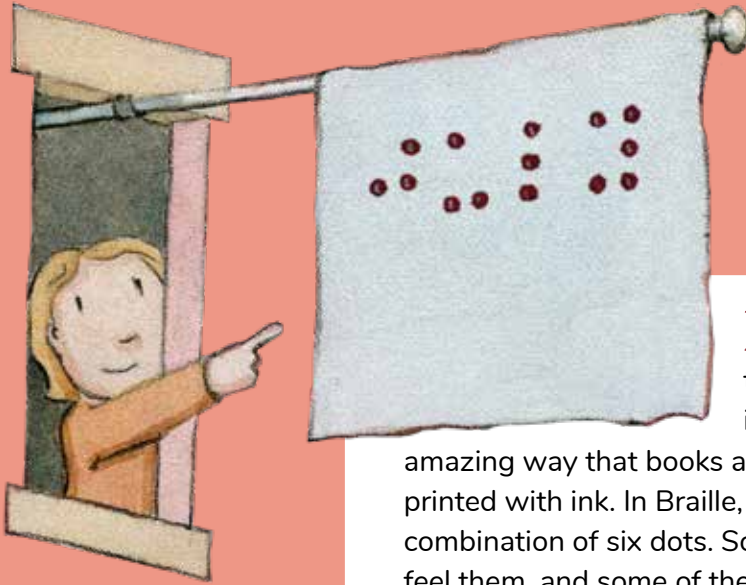


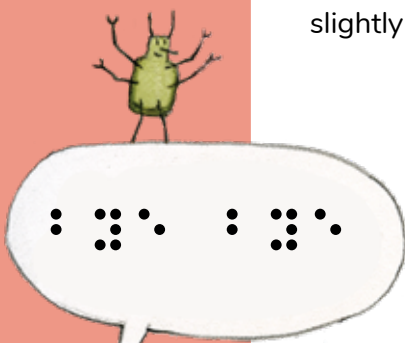
# URSULA's Writing Ideas



Look at those beautiful dots! This month on the Laureate Calendar, the word JULY is written in a special writing called Braille. Braille is an amazing way that books are published for people who can't see letters printed with ink. In Braille, each letter of the alphabet is made up of a combination of six dots. Some of the dots are slightly raised so you can feel them, and some of them are flat, so you can't. So these letters are not for looking at but for feeling with your fingertips.

Braille is named after Louise Braille, who was born in France over 200 years ago. When he was small, a tool fell into one of his eyes, and he lost his sight. But he wanted to read SO much. He heard about something in the army called "night writing", a way soldiers used to pass each other short messages in the dark by making pin holes in pieces of paper that they could feel with their fingertips. And he thought – What about making a whole alphabet that I could read in the dark? Then I'll be able to read any book I want to! And that's what he did, and this alphabet is named Braille after him.

Here is the whole alphabet. In a Braille book, the big dots would be slightly raised so you could feel them and the little dots would be flat.



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	
⠎	⠫	⠥	⠪	⠠	⠠	⠠	⠠	

Can you write the word MAGPIE with this alphabet? Or your own name?

From Ursula and Magpie

*Ursula*