

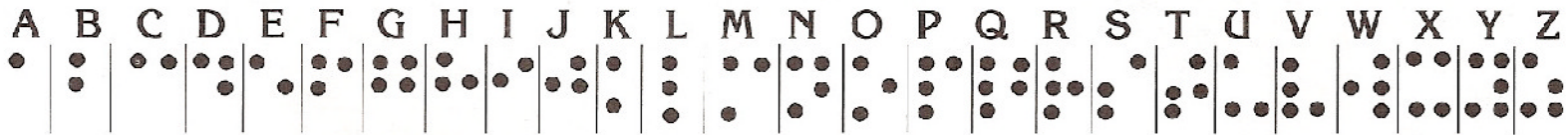
DR. OPTICAL'S DECEMBER

ACTIVITY PAGE



Dr. Optical and Miss Illusion love the holidays because they like to receive written greetings from friends. Did you know that a person who is blind can read and write? Braille is one method that helps them learn and keep in touch.

Braille is a system that uses small raised dots on paper. It is read by using the fingers and not the eyes. Each letter of the alphabet is formed by a different combination of up to six dots that are arranged differently. This is how the alphabet looks in Braille.



Study how the dots are arranged for each letter. Now print your favorite holiday greeting such as *Merry Christmas!*, *Happy Hannukka!*, *Happy Kwanzaa!* or *Happy New Year!* on a piece of paper. Then underneath each letter carefully copy the corresponding arrangement of dots from the Braille alphabet. Here is an example of how to get started:

M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S!

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When you are finished, you will be able to see what your greeting looks like in Braille. Now you can create your own "eye-opening" message for your friends and family! Remember, however, that real Braille is made of raised dots and is made using a slate and a stylus or a special Braillewriter.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT
CENTER FOR VISION LOSS!