We have a growing collection of titles to borrow and there is something for every interest; from romance & love, to the natural world, wildlife, flowers & gardens, cooking, theatre, Olympic Games, fishing, fashion & accessories, Kings, Shakespeare’s heroes & heroines, true stories and surreal dreams!

Each Touch to See Book Club title will come in a box that contains
- 2/3 tactile images with 10 copies of each
- audio descriptions that both discuss and describe the images
- colour pictures to accompany each tactile image
- Guidance Notes for the group leader, with useful suggestions for discussions and activities.

**Come Rain or Shine**

2 Tactile Images

**Woman with a Parasol: Madame Monet and Her Son** painted by Claude Monet, 1874

**The Umbrellas** painted by Pierre Auguste Renoir in 1881-86

We love to talk about the weather. These beautiful paintings show us sunshine and rain painted by two icons of the French Impressionist movement. Also of interest in these paintings are the French fashions of the day, including the must-have accessories in case of sunshine or showers - the parasol and umbrella.

**Dreams, Poetry and the Mysteries of Love**

3 Tactile Images

**The Enchanted Castle** painted by Claude le Lorrain in 1664

**The Thinker** by Auguste Rodin commissioned in 1880

**A Mermaid** painted by John William Waterhouse in 1901

Lose yourself in these three beautiful works of art and their related stories, poems and mysteries. Sadly the course of true love doesn't always run smoothly. Be warned, you may fall in love and you may also have your heart broken.
Fabulous Frocks

3 Tactile Images
Katherina Knoblauchin painted by Conrad Faber in 1532
Mrs. Daniel Cunyngham painted by Allan Ramsay c. 1740
The Fair Toxophilites painted by William Powell Frith in 1872

These three paintings show us fabulous frocks and fashions from three different eras. Enjoy the richness and texture of the fabrics, jaunty hats and gem stone jewels all wonderfully depicted by the painters.

Flying Fishermen

2 Tactile Images
Heron
Kingfisher

Yes, these fishermen are actually birds! First enjoy a meander through watery habitats, and then feel these two very different birds. You’ll learn the techniques they have for putting food on the ‘table’!

A Great Catch

2 Tactile Images
The Fisherman painted by Henry Scott Tuke in 1888
Fish Sale on a Cornish Beach painted by Stanhope. A. Forbes in 1884/5

Fish – a staple and healthy food that’s fed our nation over the centuries. Maybe you have some favourite recipes? These two paintings are about first catching, then selling, fish over a hundred years ago. This is an atmospheric behind-the-scenes look at life on the Cornish coastline.

Hunting by Night

2 Tactile Images
Tawny Owl
Brown Long-eared Bat and Hawk Moth

Step into the woods and enjoy the night-time creatures as they come to life. Then explore the three topics; two hunters and one hunted. Listen out for the haunting sounds of the woodland habitat at night including the Tawny Owl and learn about bat detectors.
**Music to Greet the Day**

*2 Tactile Images*

**Blackbird**

**Wren**

The beautiful sound of birdsong – what better way to start the day! Discover some secrets of the dawn chorus and two of the earliest songsters – the blackbird and the wren. Are you an early bird?

**Mysterious Women**

*3 Tactile Images*

The Mona Lisa painted by Leonardo da Vinci in 1503-06

Lady in a Fur Wrap painted by El Greco in 1577-79

A Bar at the Folies Bergère painted by Edouard Manet in 1881/82

Three mysterious women and they all have a secret – can you discover what they were hiding? Play detective and delve deeper into the paintings.

**The Olympic and Paralympic Games: Small Beginnings**

*3 Tactile Images*

The Olympic Games Symbol – the five rings

Zeus and Hermes

Javelin Thrower and Prize Pot

The London 2012 Olympics have caused great excitement and patriotism in Great Britain. From near-naked wrestlers in Athens to old ladies racing for a pound of tea in Shropshire - enjoy the fascinating history of the Games and explore its symbols, Gods and ancient sports. On the soundtrack there are interviews with Sir Matthew Pinsent, Olympic Rower and Rob Tarr, Paralympic wheelchair rugby player.

**The Olympic and Paralympic Games – Flaming Torches and Glittering Prizes**

*2 Tactile Images*

Three Olympic Torches

Three Medals and a Crown of Olive Leaves

A torch lit by the power of the sun at Mount Olympus and carried by relay to signal the start of the Olympic Games – it’s a powerful symbol. Explore three torches used in previous Games and also some of the stunning winners’ medals. They beat the crown of olive leaves given to the ancient winners of the Games! On the soundtrack there are interviews with Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson, Paralympic wheelchair athlete and Colin Jackson, 110m high hurdler Olympic athlete.
Shakespeare’s Kings and Heroines

3 Tactile Images

The ‘Flower’ Portrait painted by An Unknown Artist after Droeshout

Costume for Richard II

Ophelia painted by Sir John Everett Millais in 1851

First enjoy finding out about the bard himself – we all know his name but what do we really know about the man? Then enjoy dipping into two of his plays. Join Derek Jacobi as he talks about Richard II. Then linger by the water’s edge to study Ophelia, a beautiful Pre-Raphaelite painting depicting the sad heroine in Hamlet.

Town and Country

2 Tactile Images

The Farm Gate painted by Sir Stanley Spencer CBE, RA in 1950

Huddersfield painted by Laurence Stephen Lowry in 1965

Here we have two great paintings from the 20th century by well loved artists. Lowry depicts industrial Huddersfield with his matchstick people. Spencer gives us a farm scene in Berkshire with himself and his wife among the cows. All is not what is seems though – go beyond the canvas and discover more about these two artists and the places they painted.

What’s Cooking?

2 Tactile Images

An Old Woman Cooking Eggs painted by Diego de Velazquez in 1618

The Scullery Maid painted by Jean Simeon Chardin in 1738

Daily life in the kitchen isn’t always about being a domestic goddess, making cupcakes and the latest culinary gadgets. These paintings take us back in time and give us a chance to explore the kitchen-sink dramas of a different age. Velazquez was a court painter – so what’s he doing in the kitchen? And what’s on the scullery maid’s mind as she goes about her chores? Enjoy the sizzling eggs and the copper pans!

Whistle-stop Scotland

3 Tactile Images

Edinburgh Castle

Monarch of the Glen painted by Sir Edwin Landseer RA in 1851

Iona Croft painted by Francis Cadell in 1925-30

Did you know you could go to Scotland without even leaving your chair? Come aboard the Touch to See tour bus! First stop is the capital city Edinburgh, and a tour of the castle. Then we’re hiking up into the mountains and glens to admire a red stag. Finally we take to the water to visit the Island of Iona and learn about crofting and the traditional, remote ways of island living.
**The Blitz coming soon**

*2 Tactile Images*

**Totes Meer** painted by Paul Nash in 1940/1

**Bedford Circus after the Blitz** painted by AC Brown in 1942

The horror of the Blitz is still remembered by people today. These two paintings were created during World War 2 whilst the Blitz was going on so the scenes are all too realistic responses. Paul Nash has painted a ‘sea’ of metal – the twisted and torn remains of German aircraft which delivered death and destruction to so many cities. ‘Bedford Circus after the Blitz’ shows the result of a German raid on Exeter with beautiful Georgian buildings destroyed by fire.

**Love at First Sight coming soon**

*2 Tactile Images*

**The Meeting of Jacob and Rachel** painted by William Dyce in 1853-57

**The Kiss** sculpture by Constantin Brancusi in 1908

The French call love at first sight *un coup de foudre* – a lightning strike. Enjoy the simmering passion of *Jacob and Rachel* and the tactile ardor of Brancusi’s The Kiss. Be struck by the power of love.

**Riverbank Tales coming soon**

*2 Tactile Images*

**Otter**

**Wild Flowers: Rivers, Lakes and Streams**

Take a meander along the riverbank and enjoy the wildlife, wild flowers, sounds, smells and textures. Will we spot an illusive otter? If not, we may find its tracks and picture it enjoying the river with us. Includes atmospheric music and wildlife sound effects.

**Famous Teddies coming soon**

*2 Tactile Images*

**Paddington Bear**

**Aloysius**

Discover more about two of the most famous Teddies in literature: one a children’s favourite and the other a hero in a grown up story. ‘National treasure’ Stephen Fry reads ‘Paddington’ to us. Oscar-winner, actor and writer, Julian Fellowes, describes Aloysius’ remarkable ‘rags to riches’ story. Teddy Bears’ picnic optional!
Music and Montage coming soon

2 Tactile Images

The Snail collage by Henry Matisse in 1953
Cossacks painted by Wassily Kandinsky in 1910-11

Venture into the world of Abstract Art and boogie to the music that inspired these two artists and their work. An evocative soundtrack adds to the enjoyment of colour and life on the canvas.

In Your Dreams coming soon

2 Tactile Images

Celebes painted by Max Ernst in 1921
The Reckless Sleeper painted by Rene Magritte in 1928

As Shakespeare’s Prospero said,
“We are such stuff As dreams are made on; and our little life Is rounded with a sleep.”

Are we dreaming or is this a nightmare? Enter into the art of the night with two Surrealists. Discover what was behind Ernst’s strange elephant creature and Magritte’s spooky dreamer - all is not what it seems. It makes you ask the question – what do our dreams mean?

Love and Death: Heroes and Heroines coming soon

2 Tactile Images

Beata Beatrix painted by Dante Gabriel Rossetti in 1860-70
The Death of Harold, Bayeux Tapestry

Beata Beatrix is an iconic Pre-Raphaelite painting and the tragedy of Lizzie Siddell, lover and muse of Rossetti, is desperately romantic. Harold’s heroic death is one of the first history lessons we learn - 1066 and all that! His love for Edith Swan-Neck, his mistress, is not so well known. Folklore has it that Edith walked through the carnage of the battle field and identified Harold by marks on his body known only to her. There is a moving statue in St Leonards-on-Sea, Hastings, of Harold lying on his back and the figure of Edith hunched over him, holding up his head towards her face.

Dickensian Hard Times coming soon

2 Tactile Images

Death of Chatterton painted by Henry Wallis in 1856
The Outcast painted by Richard Redgrave in 1851

Delve into Dickensian hard times, “There is a wisdom of the head, and... there is a wisdom of the heart.” The suicide of Henry Chatterton was the finale to a short and tragic life which continued to inspire poets and artists for many years. Richard Redgrave was a campaigning
artist drawing attention to the plight of women in the unforgiving Victorian society - The Outcast portrays this vividly.

**Flowers: in gardens & vases coming soon**

2 Tactile Images

Japanese Garden painted by Claude Monet in 1899

Sunflowers painted by Vincent Van Gogh in 1888

Lift your spirits with two refreshing studies of flowers; Monet’s beautiful watery garden and van Gogh’s stunning yellow sunflowers. Monet created works of art in his wonderful garden at Giverny, as well as on his canvasses. Meanwhile van Gogh poured all his heart and mind into his paintings. Great inspiration for gardeners and rustic-inspired flower arrangements. Enjoy!

**At the Theatre coming soon**

2 Tactile Images

Two Dancers on a Stage painted by Edgar Degas in 1874

La Loge painted by Pierre August Renoir by 1874

Curtain up - let Degas and Renoir take you to the theatre! Enjoy ballet and opera, show off in your best evening wear and size-up the other people in the audience. A brilliant insight into life on and off stage, in the Parisian footlights.