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Thinkerbell Labs

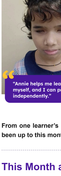
Making Learning Inclusive

4 Min Read

In case you missed the previous newsletter, read it here.

This month, we're sharing a little of the joy that goes into learning braille.

For Anavi, learning comes with stories, poems, games, and plenty to explore.



Anavi, a 10-year-old at Helen Keller Institute for Deaf and Deafblind Navi Mumbai, loves using Annie to read and write braille, practise typing, play games, and listen to stories and poems.

It's the audio features that make learning especially enjoyable for her, turning practice into an interactive experience she can explore independently.

For Anavi, Annie makes braille learning fun while helping her grow more confident in what she can do on her own.

And that's what accessible learning should make possible: *the freedom to explore, practise, and discover at your own pace.*

From one learner's little wins to a much bigger movement, here's what we've been up to this month!

This Month at a Glance

More partnerships, more centres, and more learners discovering Annie.

Annie is now present in **493 centres across India, reaching 9,100 learners!** That's more children getting access to braille learning and more opportunities to learn independently.

On the partnerships front, we've had a busy month. Our work with **Coal India** continues to expand our reach; **MNGL** has upsized its engagement with us, and we've signed a partnership agreement with **KBR**.



We also had the opportunity to showcase Annie and Tactera to **Ms. Manmeet Nanda, Additional Secretary at the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Government of India.** She saw a live demonstration of how a child can learn braille independently with Annie. We then introduced her to Tactera's growing library of accessible content, featuring stories from the Mahabharata and Panchatantra, along with NCERT textbooks in braille and audio.



As Annie reaches more corners of the world, we're also meeting the people and organisations shaping the future of accessibility.

Bring Annie to a Learner

Sneak Peek

Meet Tactera's New AI Features!

What if you could look up a word you've never come across or have a conversation with AI, all through your refreshable braille display? That's what's coming to Tactera.

Tactera's Braille-First AI Chat App



With AI-powered word lookup, simply select a word to explore its meaning without interrupting your reading. Tactera's upcoming **braille-First AI Chat app brings generative AI directly to the refreshable braille display, designed from the ground up for braille users.**

Ask questions, explore new topics, get help with studies or work, improve your writing, or understand difficult content without switching to a phone or computer. Get clean, structured braille responses in short or long formats. Save chats as EPUBs to read offline or share.

More than AI on a braille display, it's a new way to learn, work and access information independently.

Thinkerbell Labs Around the World

From South Africa to IIT Delhi, we've been taking our work in accessible learning to new spaces, meeting people who share our vision, and exchanging ideas on what inclusion can look like. Here's where we've been this month!

Annie at ICEVI, South Africa

At the ICEVI conference in South Africa, **Annie was showcased at our booth with Edit Microsystems**, introducing educators, accessibility professionals, government personnel, and organisations from across the region to our work in braille learning and accessible technology.

We connected with several key voices in accessibility and inclusion, including **Pedro Poison**, CEO, EMEA at HumanWare, **Mikael Vikman**, CEO and co-owner of Index Braille; **Mr. Akhil S. Paul**, Founder of Sense International India and Vice President of the International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment; and **Dr. Hester Costa**, Acting Director-General in South Africa's Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities.



We also connected with teams from UNISA (University of South Africa), the DAISY Consortium, and CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind). These conversations offered valuable perspectives on the future of accessible technology and an opportunity to learn from others working towards inclusivity.

Thinkerbell Labs at EMPOWER 2026

We continued the conversation closer to home. Thinkerbell Labs was selected to present a poster at **EMPOWER 2026**, the annual assistive technology conference held at IIT Delhi.



Our poster **showcased nearly a decade of real-world implementation of Annie and Helios,** highlighting the scale of our work and how we have made braille learning outcomes measurable. Building on this experience, the poster explored how these insights can contribute to developing a more robust, evidence-based framework for understanding braille proficiency and establishing benchmarks for reading, writing and typing.

Link to Poster

In News

Vande Bharatam made the news

Our journey to the Top 50 of Vande Bharatam caught the attention of **CXO Herald.**

A spotlight on the journey

Khas Khabar covered our Vande Bharatam experience and the ideas we took to the national stage.

And another one!

JournoViews also featured our Vande Bharatam journey, Tactera and what we're building next.

Annie Championship

Mark your calendars for 25 December! The Annie Braille Championship gives students a chance to showcase their Braille reading and writing skills across three categories, from beginner to advanced learners.

With prizes for top students, teachers and schools, it's time to get practising on Annie and get ready to compete.



Interested in participating? More details on eligibility and assessments coming soon!

Register your Interest

We're Growing

Hiring: Junior Finance and Accounts Executive

Apply now!

The People Behind the Progress



The milestones are exciting, but the people behind them are what make the work possible. This month, we're handing the mic to one of our own.

"Building technology that can change lives is only the first step. The real impact comes from making sure it reaches the children who need it most, even in the most underserved parts of the country."

Nikhil Boddu
Director of business operations
Thinkerbell Labs

We celebrated 10 years of incredible milestones with a team retreat that capped off a decade of Thinkerbell Labs!



Until next month,
Dilip Ramesh
Co-Founder & CEO

Thinkerbell Labs

Thinkerbell Labs · 4th Floor, JK Towers, 715/4 53-2, 46th Cross, Marenahalli Rd, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560070