**Replies on Low Vision Collection Items Spring 2016**

<https://www.enhancedvision.com/low-vision-product-line/pebble-hd-hand-held-portable-electronic-magnifier.html>

<https://us.optelec.com/products/cvc-ocr-clearview-c-speech-24%E2%80%9D-high-definition.html>

<http://www.freedomscientific.com/Products/LowVision/Ruby>

<http://www.eschenbach.com/products-reading-glasses-illuminated.htm>

Here in the Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped located within Clinton-Macomb Public Library, we have three hand-held video magnifiers that are popular with our low-vision patrons.  Here is a descriptive list of a few [video magnifiers](https://www.google.com/webhp?sourceid=chrome-instant&ion=1&espv=2&ie=UTF-8#q=ruby+video+magnifier&tbm=shop) we have available in our library.

My personal favorite is a magnifier bar which is wide enough for magazine reading.
<http://www.amazon.com/Power-Bar-Magnifier-Clear/dp/B000MMVE92?ie=UTF8&psc=1&redirect=true&ref_=oh_aui_search_detailpage>
We don't have a low vision collection, but we do have this bar for users to borrow in the library.

A pen type device that a patron suggested that stores what you write with the pen then loads into a computer and reads it back to you. (I think this might be it: <http://www.amazon.com/Livescribe-4-GB-Echo-Smartpen/dp/B003RAE19Q>)

Not quite what you're asking for but...one of the items on our to-buy list is actually for in-house use: [a full-page stand magnifier](http://www.amazon.com/Daylight-24-402039-05-Natural-Magnifier/dp/B004AM75CA/ref%3Dsr_1_2?s=lamps-light&ie=UTF8&qid=1462215494&sr=1-2&keywords=magnifier). We want to get one of these for our newspaper area. They have them at Novi, and people seem to like them.

So one of the most effective tools we have available is the magnifier that people use for counted cross stitch. It sits on the page and highlights one line at a time.....tried it myself and it is good. Available at Jo-Ann Fabrics or Micheals!! (I searched Jo-Ann’s and found this one, but there are others –KS http://www.joann.com/daylight-flexilens-on-mini-clip/9815317.html#start=21)

We do offer VITALITY Kits for checkout.  In our low vision kit we offer a Reading Pen.  When text is highlighted, the pen will translate the text to speech.  In one other kit we offer a magnifier that can be placed around a prescription bottle for reading the contents, and it is lighted as well.

Here is a link to our VITLITY Kit collection in our catalog:

<https://catalog.btpl.org/search/c?SEARCH=vitality&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=5>

VITALITY kits were funded by the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.  Kits contain items for seniors to use or try before they purchase an item, or just to obtain information in one complete kit.  Item included are:  books, dvds, music cds, games, puzzles, reading pens, magnifiers, calculators, large print timers, aids to daily living and more.  Subjects include Memory issues, low vision, Parkinson’s disease, stroke, strength training, osteoporosis, grief and more.

While I have helped patrons sign up for the Library for the Blind's Talking Book program for years, I became a demonstration site about a little over a year ago.  By registering as a demonstration site, I was sent a Talking Book machine, a book to play on it, sample headphones, and literature.  There was no obligation on my part except to promote the service as I saw fit and what worked best for my library.  It has been most helpful to be able to dig out an actual machine and a "book" and show patrons how the machine works, rather than just describing it verbally.