



Tactual Skills for Students with Visual Impairments

Manipulating Object Skills:

- Bangs objects
- Shakes and object
- Squeezes an object
- Pokes an object
- Pushes and pulls an object
- Moves parts of objects
- Pulls objects out of containers
- Puts objects in the containers
- Takes objects apart
- Puts objects together
- Unwraps objects
- Precisely places objects in confined space

Recognizing Object Skills:

- Demonstrates pleasure or satisfaction upon obtaining a desired object
- Performs appropriate actions with an object
- Anticipates events when given an object associated with the event

Comparing Object Skills:

- Responds differently to warm, cold, rough, and smooth objects
- Retains two objects
- Shifts touch from one object to another
- Matches shapes

Organizing Object Skills:

- Orients self to a stationery object
- Puts objects away in correct places
- Obtains objects for activities
- Gathers related objects for a task
- Arranges materials for a task
- Maintains neat work and personal areas

Taken from *Teaching Students with Visual and Multiple Impairments A Resource Guide*, by Millie Smith and Nancy Levack. Published by TSBVI



Functional Applications of Tactual Skills

Manipulating Objects:

- Pushes and pulls to request and refuse objects
- Takes apart and puts together clothing by unfastening and fastening
- Pokes to find openings in objects
- Takes lids off containers
- Pulls chips out of the bag
- Takes apart stacked cups to set the table
- Puts soap on washcloth
- Squeezes a tube of toothpaste
- Pokes the on/off button on a tape player, microwave, or blender

Recognizing Objects:

- Contacts the object with some part of the body
- Lifts a foot when given a shoe
- Makes rubbing motions when given a washcloth
- Finds desired item in an array of finger foods
- Finds the toothbrush in a toiletry kit

Comparing Objects:

- Shifts touch from one object to another with some part of the body
- Compares the textures between a Nerf ball and a tennis ball, or the sounds of two different squeak toys
- Compares objects in routine
- Compares shoes to see if they match
- Finds the banana in a bowl of fruit
- Finds a washcloth in stacks of towels and washcloths

Organizing Objects:

- Places objects where they belong (glasses in dishwasher)
- Partially participates in placing the object
- Requests assistance for placing the object
- Places objects in sequence
- Orients clothing correctly before putting it on
- Puts dirty clothing in correct place

