

Touching and understanding Touch strategy



Activity: Exploring long objects

Set-up of the activity

The purpose is to explore the entire object, from one end to the other. Use long toys for this purpose, such as a toy snake, a thick rope or a long necklace.

0-2

- Put a long tactile snake, rope or bead necklace around the client so that he has to explore his front, back and sides.
- Stimulate the client to explore the material from one end to the other end.
- Hang a laundry line at a reachable height in the room or place it on the table or wheelchair tray. Hang objects from the line that the client is interested in. The client will then encounter these objects by moving his hand along the laundry line.

2-4

- Hang a bead necklace or tactile snake vertically so that the client can explore from the bottom upwards.
- Use longer materials with challenging objects to explore.

Points for observation and focus

- Make sure the client does not put the long object around his neck.
- Make sure the client uses both hands, if possible.
- Make sure the client explores the entire length. Help the client if necessary.
- Observe whether the client explores the area surrounding his body.
- Take into account that the speed of exploration is important: when exploring too fast, he misses some impressions; when exploring too slow, the client registers less.

Alternative materials

- The rim of a bed box, a staircase banister or the side of a slide
- A shelf in a closet
- A thick tree trunk or a long branch
- The stick of a broom
- The edge of the table
- The frame of a painting

Can also be used in the categories

- Noticing (NT)
- Tactual exploration (TE)