

Touching and perceiving

Touch sensitivity



Activity: Exploring a carousel with objects

You can buy a carousel dryer in household shops or online and hang various objects from it, such as a sponge, a latex glove, a small brush, polystyrene foam ball, bubble wrap or a piece of cloth.

Set-up of the activity

0-2

- Begin with hanging one familiar object on the carousel.
- Then stimulate the client to grab the object by you ticking on it.
- If the client does not reach for the object, move the object to the client's hand while stating you are going to do this. Then let the client grab and explore the object himself.
- If possible, set up the carousel together. That way the client immediately knows where the carousel is located and where the materials are hanging.
- Gradually add unfamiliar objects to the carousel.

2-4

- Hang more than five different objects on the carousel. Do not hang them too far apart.
- First hang the same type of materials next to each other and name them.
- Then hang different types of materials next to each other and name the characteristics.
- Let the client choose from a box the materials that will be hung.

4-6

- Use materials that are easy to recognise and let the client take them out of the box one by one upon your request.
- Hang the materials together.

Points for observation and focus

- Make sure the client is lying or sitting in a comfortable position.
- Adjust the manner of presenting the objects to the motor abilities of the client.
- Limit the activity to familiar materials that the client prefers if you know that the client has a tactile and/or auditory aversion.
- Make sure the client is given sufficient time to properly explore the material or object.
- Observe how the client holds the material: with his entire hand, only with the fingers or the side of the hand.
- Take into account that some clients also explore with their mouth, forehead, cheeks or feet.

Alternative materials

- Play arch on a wheelchair or table
- A rope tied above the bed or at the table like a laundry line.

Can also be used in the categories

- Noticing (NT)
- Tactual exploration (TE)