

## Touching and understanding Figure-ground perception



### Activity: Looking for objects in pasta

#### Set-up of the activity

Take objects that greatly contrast with pasta, such as a rubber bouncy ball, stuffed fabric dolls or steel teaspoons.

#### 0-2

- First let the client feel an object that is so large that it protrudes from the pasta.
- Take a storage box with pasta; make sure the client doesn't have to dig too deep with his hands.
- Now put the object in the pasta and partially hide it.
- If necessary, help the client to find it.

#### 2-4

- Hide objects in a box or bowl of pasta.
- Take objects that are more similar to pasta, such as long or round objects.

#### 4-6

- First let the client feel a small object.
- Hide the object in the pasta and let him look for it.
- Put several objects in the pasta and let the client look for them.
- Hide flatter objects in the pasta and check whether the client succeeds in finding them.

### Points for observation and focus

- Observe which searching strategy the client uses.
- Check whether the client is distracted by the background (pasta).
- Check whether the client is bothered by the material.
- Observe whether the client notices the difference between the background and the object.
- Check whether the client prefers certain materials.

### Alternative materials

- Bowl with rice
- Bowl with dry beans, dry chestnuts or acorns
- Bowl with shreds of paper or wood
- Bowl with plastic caps
- Objects to hide: a bouncy ball, keys or a ball of wool

### Can also be used in the categories

- Touch sensitivity (TST)
- Tactual exploration (TE)