

ALL ABOUT THE TACTILE SYSTEM

WHAT IS THE TACTILE SYSTEM?



THE SENSE OF TOUCH



PART OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM



ALLOWS US TO FEEL AND INTERPRET
INFORMATION THROUGH OUR SKIN

WHEN IT'S FUNCTIONING SMOOTHLY, IT...

HELPS US FILTER OUT UNNECESSARY
INFORMATION THAT CAN BE DISTRACTING!

THE TACTILE SYSTEM IS WHAT ALLOWS US TO FEEL:

SOFT CLOTHING



WET BUBBLES



FOAMY SHAVING CREAM



HARD TOYS



AIR FROM A FAN



HOW SOME BRAINS & BODIES RESPOND TO TACTILE INPUT

A CHILD MAY SEEK TACTILE INFORMATION MORE THAN OTHERS. THIS MAY MEAN THAT THEY ARE...



TACTILE SEEKING

"TACTILE UNDER-RESPONSIVE"

THIS MIGHT LOOK LIKE:

- TOUCHES OTHER PEOPLE EXCESSIVELY, SOMETIMES TO THE POINT OF IRRITATING PEOPLE AROUND THEM
- LIKES TO FEEL NON-EDIBLE ITEMS IN THEIR MOUTH
- FIDDLES OR TOUCHES CLOTHING OFTEN
- CLUMSY WITH FINE MOTOR ACTIVITIES
- PREFERS MESSY PLAY
- DOES NOT NOTICE MESSINESS ON HANDS OR FACE

WHEN A CHILD HAS DIFFICULTY WITH TOLERATING CERTAIN TYPES OF TACTILE INFORMATION, THIS MAY BE A RESULT OF...

"TACTILE OVER-RESPONSIVE"

TACTILE DEFENSIVENESS/SENSITIVITY



THIS MIGHT LOOK LIKE:

- REFUSAL TO WEAR SOCKS AND REPORTS SEAMS OR TEXTURES OF CLOTHING ARE UNCOMFORTABLE
- BRUSHING OR COMBING HAIR IS PAINFUL
- CERTAIN FOODS ARE "TOO MESSY" OR "ICKY" TO TOUCH; CONSIDERED A "PICKY EATER"
- HAIRCUTS, NAIL CUTTING, AND TEETH BRUSHING ARE CHALLENGING
- BLANKET OR CLOTHING FABRICS CAN FEEL PAINFUL, "ITCHY" OR UNCOMFORTABLE