****Open Hands, Open Access Deaf-Blind Intervener Learning Modules

Module: Touch for Connecting and Learning

# Hand Development Assignment

Hands are very important. No one’s hands are exactly like another’s. As you engage in this assignment you will be reflecting on the use of hands. If you serve a student who does not have the use of their hands, consider ways another part of his or her body functions as hands.

**Name:**

**Date:**

## Instructions

Choose one of these videos of younger children using their hands in natural routines.

* [William with Toys—Active Learning](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFgXejte0k0) [[Transcript](https://www.nationaldb.org/media/doc/William_With_Toys_-_Active_Learning.txt)] (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFgXejte0k0)
* [Simon Exploring Rice and Toys](https://youtu.be/C97ZSYzwabo) [[Transcript](https://www.nationaldb.org/media/doc/Simon_Exploring_Rice_and_Toys.txt)] (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C97ZSYzwabo)

* [Clarisa Cause and Effect](https://youtu.be/0lf0vRY3swM) [[Transcript]](https://www.nationaldb.org/media/doc/Clarisa_learning_cause_effect.txt)
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C97ZSYzwabo)
1. As you observe, make notes on how the child is using their hands—how the hands move and interact with objects in the video.

What is the child's purpose in using their hands in this specific setting or routine?

1. Select an object for yourself and imitate the child’s movements. Note how your hands relate to your body, your position.

What do your hands feel like interacting with those objects for that purpose?

1. Use your dominant hand to explore your non-dominant hand, touching each finger, your palm, your wrist. Touch each fingernail on your hand, noting the sensitivity of your hands to your own touch.

Were your ticklish to your own touch?

Compare your experience using light vs. firm touch on your own hand.

Describe the sensation of touching your own hand.

1. Take two photographs, one of the front of your hand and one of the back of your hand. Hands convey very personal information about your life experiences, your history, and your personality. What do the photographs convey about you?