



# Learning Through Tactile Experiences

*"Touch has a memory" ~ John Keats*

Touch is one of the first senses we develop as babies. A gentle loving hug from a parent or caregiver gives a child warm feelings of love and security. Our skin is designed to feel a variety of different sensations and these sensations help us differentiate good feelings from bad feelings.



Encouraging Early Learners Today

2018—Quarter 1

## Hands-on Experiences

### What are tactile experiences and why are they important?

Tactile learning is a learning style in which children use their hands to learn about the world around them. Children are actively involved in "doing" rather than sitting while they listen or watch. Children who are given the opportunity to DO things in order to learn and gain knowledge are more engaged and focused which leads to better memory and recall. A child who has ample opportunities to use their hands, remembers the experiences better and for a longer period of time.

Toddlers first learn through movement, touching objects, and coloring which builds the foundation to learn enhanced language skills, critical thinking, problem solving, reading and writing. Increased exposure to tactile learning, tummy time, and development of motor skills is directly related to future academic success.

When children learn while using their tactile senses, they are supporting development of all areas of growth including cognitive, social/emotional, and physical.

- ★ Allow your child to use their sense of touch to experience tummy-time, bath-time with soap suds, mud, play-doh, etc.
- ★ Provide materials like dolls, boxes, slime, blocks, pots and pans, and dress up clothes.
- ★ Textured fabric and paper allow your child to experience different sensations with their hands.
- ★ Read stories with your child and allow your child to touch and turn the pages.
- ★ Build props with your child to allow them to experience textures.



## Parent Policies - Protect Your Child Care Services

If you receive Child Care Subsidies, you are **REQUIRED** to report any household changes that might effect your Child Care eligibility within **14 calendar days**.

### Changes to Report—A few examples:

1. Updated contact information including physical or mailing address, phone number, email, or emergency contact.
2. Change in household composition or size (increase or decrease).
3. Loss of a job, a new job, or any other job

To Report a Change, Call:

(979) 595-2801 ext. 2105

Or Email:

[CCMS@bvcoq.org](mailto:CCMS@bvcoq.org)

changes, temporary or permanent, including a pay raise, bonus, and an increase or decrease in hours.

4. Any other change(s) in your life which could affect your eligibility.

Remember! If you do not notify us of a change that makes you ineligible for services, you will be responsible for paying back all child care service payments made during that time period.

It is always better to call or email and ask if it affects your eligibility than to find out later.

[Make Kinetic Sand - Video](#)



AmericanJobCenter

# Texas Rising Star Program

## Quality Child Care Matters



Research tells us that a child's healthy development depends on safe and positive relationships and experiences during the first few years of life. Choosing quality child care is one of the most important decisions you make for your child as they spend a good portion of their first few years in the care of someone other than their parents or family members. It is important to find a program that is convenient, open when you need it, and will have a long lasting positive impact on your child's development. Most importantly, you and your child need a child care program that makes sure your child is in a physically and emotionally safe environment where he/she can learn new things.

The Texas Rising Star program is voluntary and assists providers who strive to provide a higher level of quality care for the children they serve by giving them access to mentoring and professional development resources designed to assist them in improving the quality of early childhood environments. For a list of local Texas Rising Star Providers, visit our website: [bvjobs.org/programs/childcare/](http://bvjobs.org/programs/childcare/)

### Curriculum Enrichment - Tactile

Tactile experiences contribute greatly to the child's development of focus and attention; two skills they to be successful in school. Attention span is developed when children have the opportunity to engage in activities that they enjoy which require them to focus to attain their goal. The length of time they are able to focus will increase with practice and age.

When a child's attention and focus are geared toward attaining a goal, the behavioral challenges you may have come to expect, both at home and school, tend to decrease because they are actively engaged in the activity at hand.

Movement and music is a great way of creating an environment that promotes focus and attention. A few great examples of this would be "Simon Says" or having the kids *Freeze* when the music stops!



### Curriculum Enrichment

- ★ Make play-doh, goop, and moon sand!
- ★ Provide opportunities for children to dance and move to music. Movement contributes to learning and memory.
- ★ Allow children to participate in cooking activities with various textures of foods.

**Remember:** Children need frequent breaks from just sitting and listening!

### Provider Policies - Reporting Issues and Emergency Closures

Sometimes, situations occur that need to be reported to your Provider Specialist.

Here are a few of those instances:

1. CCAA Swipe Card Machine is Not Working or your Phone Line is Down (Parents are unable to report attendance)
2. Emergency Closures
3. 5 Day "No-Call"/"No-Show"
4. Parent intent to not return to your center

**CCS Provider Specialist**

**(979) 595-2801**  
ext. 2243

[CCMS@bvcoq.org](mailto:CCMS@bvcoq.org)

It is important that your Provider Specialist knows when these situations occur to ensure your file is updated properly.

Other situations to report to CCS Staff or your Provider Specialist:

1. Non-payment of the parent share of cost (also known as the Parent Fee)
2. Transfers to or away from your center. You may request a current 2450 referral
3. Center Contact Information or Changes
4. Misuse of CCAA Cards

*Make sure you report all changes or situations within 5 business days.*

For more information, please refer to the [Provider Handbook!](#)