Touch Activity

About ten small items will be needed for this activity. These items can be purchased inexpensively at a dollar store or garage sale. Some of the objects should be common items that may be known to the participants by touch or sight (e.g., a key, clothespin, or spoon), other objects should be less common (e.g., garlic press or cell phone cover).

The instructor places the objects, one at a time, in a paper bag and has the participant touch the object. Without looking at the object, the participant must identify the object. Once the participant has attempted to identify the object they are told what it is. The participant is then instructed to feel the object again and “make a memory” for the feel of the object.

Keep track of what objects each person has seen and touched, within sessions and across sessions. Each time this activity is done, use some items that were used in previous and some new ones. Try to choose at least one object the participant is likely to know through touch and one they are not likely to know.

To make the task challenging for high functioning participants, you will have to have some objects that are very rare. The high functioning participants should remember the name and the function of the object. This activity is appropriate for almost all levels.