

HEAD START BODY START
NATIONAL CENTER FOR PHYSICAL
DEVELOPMENT AND
OUTDOOR PLAY

Sensory Play
and
Learning

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Meet the Speaker

Play Environment Specialist

Children Museum
Universal Design Assessments

Playground Consultant

Workshops



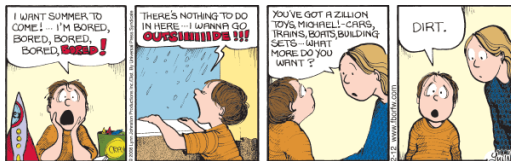
Agenda

Sensory Play –

Why should we consider sensory play?

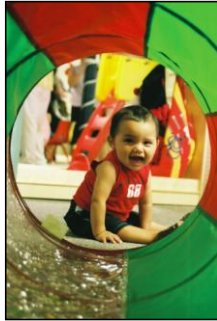
How does sensory information get integrated?

Sensory Play Activities to support learning



Why should we consider sensory play?

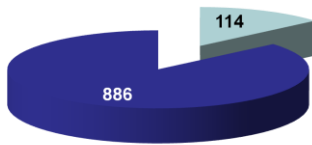
- ... because sensory play help us understand and master our world.
- ... because sensory play builds and feeds our brain.
- ... because life skills build on the foundation developed through sensory play.



Why should we consider sensory play?

Childhood Disabilities 1990 - 91

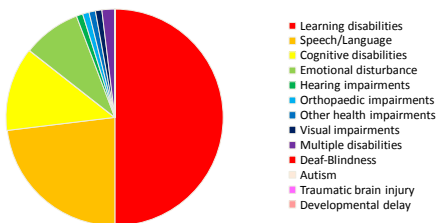
- Disability
- No Disability



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, 2009. Data is for the 1990 - 91 school year.

Why should we consider sensory play?

The number of children with each type of disability out of the 114 children with disabilities enrolled 1990 - 91

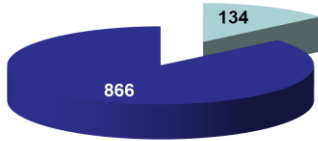


Source: National Center for Education Statistics, 2009. Data is for the 1990 - 91 school year.

Why should we consider sensory play?

Childhood Disabilities 2007 - 08

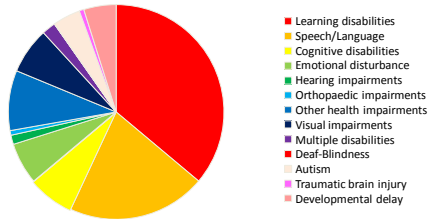
- Disability
- No Disability



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, 2009. Data is for the 2007-08 school year.

Why should we consider sensory play?

The number of children with each type of disability out of the 134 children with disabilities enrolled 2007 - 08



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, 2009. Data is for the 2007-08 school year.

Why should we consider sensory play?

Current Trends In Childhood Disability Statistics

- Mobility Impairments didn't really change: stayed at about 1%
- Learning disabilities really didn't change: stayed at about 5.2%
- Autism data was not available in 1990-91 and does not show up until 1997-98 school year when it was seen in 1 in 1000 children now it is seen in 1 in 100 children.



Why should we consider sensory play?



What does this mean?

These newer disabilities have more social, emotional and sensory components than a physical component.

These are tied into a child's sensory motor development.

Why should we consider sensory play?

... because we all learn about our world through our senses.

... because children with disabilities can benefit from sensory play.

... because it feeds our brain.

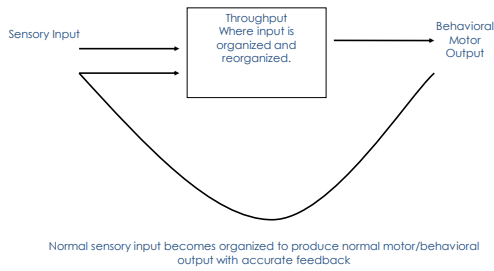


How does sensory information get integrated?

Background:

- A. Jean Ayres, Occupational Therapist
- Neuroscience
- Better explains the relationship between behavior and neural functioning.
- Organization of sensory information for daily use.

How does sensory information get integrated?



How does sensory information get integrated?

Three Overarching Postulants

1. Typical Development
2. Dysfunction of Sensory Integration
3. Guide to intervention and treatment



How does sensory information get integrated?

Typical Development Assumptions

1. Neural Plasticity: the brain physically changes as we learn.



How does sensory information get integrated?

Typical Development Assumptions

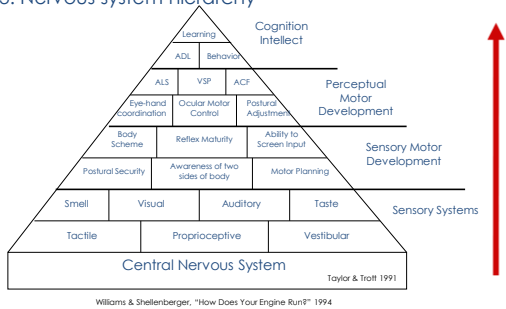
2. Sensory development follows a sequence



How does sensory information get integrated?

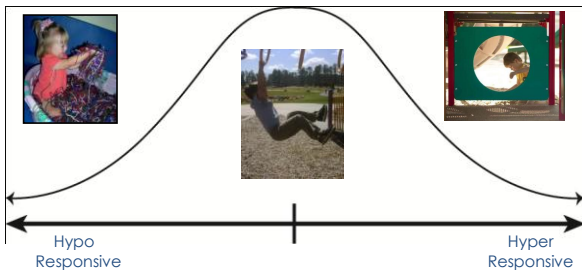
Typical Development Assumptions

3. Nervous system hierarchy



How does sensory information get integrated?

Typical Development Assumptions



How does sensory information get integrated?

Typical Development Assumptions

- 4. Adaptive behavior is the result of registration of sensory input.



How does sensory information get integrated?

Typical Development Assumptions

- 5. Input to one sensory system can be used to support another.



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Proprioception



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Proprioception



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Proprioception



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Proprioception



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Vestibular



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Vestibular



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Vestibular



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Vestibular



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Vestibular



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Tactile



Sensory Play & Learning

Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Tactile



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Tactile



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Visual



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Visual



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Auditory



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Smell



Sensory Play Activities that support Learning

Taste



Resources

Sensory Play information from KaBOOM!

http://kaboom.org/build_playspace/toolkit/accessibility/play_and_development/sensory_play

Alert Program – How Does Your Engine Run? & Take Five

Mary Sue Williams, OTR/L & Sherry Shellenberger, OTR/L

<http://www.alertprogram.com/>

The Out-of-Sync Child Has Fun – Carol Stock Kranowitz

<http://www.out-of-sync-child.com/>

Sensory Processing Disorder Foundation – Lucy Jane Miller, ORT/L

<http://www.kidfoundation.org/>



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