SENSORY 101
HOW MANY SENSES ARE THERE?
WE HAVE 8 SENSORY SYSTEMS

• Visual-sight
  • Receptors: eyes

• Auditory-hearing
  • Receptors: ears

• Gustatory-taste
  • Receptors: taste buds

• Olfactory-smell
  • Receptors: Nose

• Interoceptive:
  • Receptors: internal organs

• Tactile-touch
  • Receptors: skin and fascia

• Vestibular-head position
  • Receptors: semicircular canals and otoliths

• Proprioceptive-body position
  • Receptors: All muscles and joints

Harper, 2015
“Sensory Integration”

A function of the brain and body that occurs in all humans across the lifespan.

A theoretical basis and a specific clinical frame of reference for the assessment and treatment of people who have functional disorders in sensory processing.

Harper, 2015
• Neurological process that organizes sensation from one's own body and from the environment and makes it possible to use the body effectively within the environment (Ayres 1972)

• Sensory information is received through sensory receptors, travels into the CNS, is processed, information sent back for an adaptive response. (Touching a hot stove)

• Outputs:
  • Speech
  • Motor
  • Cognitive
  • Psychosocial
  • SKILL and SAFETY
DYSFUNCTION IN SENSORY INTEGRATION

• If sensory information is not being processed correctly, then you’re not able to create an adaptive response.

• If you have to think to process sensory information, THEN SKILLS TAKE A BACKSEAT!

• Harper, 2015
WHEN SENSORY INTEGRATION IS DYSFUNCTIONAL IT CAN PRESENT IN SEVERAL WAYS IN PRIMARY AGE SCHOOL CHILDREN
YOU MAY OBSERVE:

- Fine Motor Precision Issues
- Fine Motor Integration Issues
- Manual Dexterity Difficulty
- Upper Limb Coordination Issues
- Bilateral Coordination Issues
- Balance

Dr. Sarah Kennedy, OTD, OTR/L
Determine the Arousal State/Threshold

REFERENCES
