My Senses: Touch

Our sense of touch opens the world to us and causes us to fully experience our environments. All young children learn through tactile experiences. Helping your baby touch various items helps them to develop a sense of their world, language (Is it soft? Smooth? Rough?) and safety boundaries (Don’t touch).

• During bath time, talk with baby about what they touch: wet, slippery toys, a soft towel, etc.
• Outside, sitting on the ground and touching dirt, grass, and rocks helps baby explore the world. It’s great to let babies experience many types of natural items, but make sure they don’t put rocks in their mouth.
• Mealtime is another opportunity to explore what baby is touching. Give words to their experiences.
• At the grocery store, help baby hold a piece of fruit, and talk about its textures. Is it smooth, fuzzy or rough?
• On a walk, pick up a leaf, a pine cone, or a blade of grass and let baby touch each item. Talk about how each natural item feels different from the other.

Ideen & Tips

• Fuzzy, Fuzzy, Fuzzy; Touch, Skritch, & Tickle Book by Sandra Boynton
• I Can Touch by Julie Murray
• I Hear a Pickle: (And Smell, See, Touch and Taste It, Too!) by Rachel Isadora
• Spiky, Slimy, Smooth: What is Texture? by Jane Brocket
• What do I feel? / ¿Qué siento? by Annie Kubler

Rhyming Fun

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

The itsy bitsy spider climbed up the waterspout.
(Alternately touch the thumb of one hand to the index finger of the other.)
Down came the rain,
(Hold both hands up and wiggle the fingers as the hands are lowered.)
and washed the spider out.
(Sweep the hands from side to side.)
Out came the sun,
(Raise both hands and sweep to the sides to form a semicircle as the sun.)
and dried up all the rain.
And the itsy bitsy spider climbed up the spout again.
(Wiggle fingers upwards.)