

Learning Another Way Simulations

Activity Three: Identifying Money

Simulate how a person who is blind uses their other senses to help handle their money.

Materials Needed:

- A variety of coins
- Several denominations of paper money
- Blindfolds



Procedures:

1. Blindfold several students and propose a scenario such as: “You are blind, you just bought candy at the store and I am giving you change. Now I want you to count your change to see if you received the correct amount.” Place the money in their hands and give them time to figure it out.
2. When the student believes they know how much they have, take off the blindfold and let them count again to see if they were correct.
3. Discuss how they could tell the coins apart.
4. Blindfold another student. Tell them that you are paying them for some work they did. Hand them several pieces of paper money and ask them to count their money to see if they were paid correctly.
5. If they say they can’t do it, have them guess and take their blindfold off and see what they have.
6. Discuss how paper money cannot be distinguished through touch.
7. Ask for ideas on how to handle money successfully if you are blind.
 - Folding different ways to keep in wallet
Each person develops a bill-folding system that suits them, such as:
 - Leave 1-dollar bills flat.
 - Fold 5-dollar bills in half.
 - Fold 10-dollar bills in half and in half again.
 - Fold 20-dollar bills once lengthwise
 - Place different bills in different compartments of wallet
 - Use a credit card
 - Ask for help – it is important to know when to ask for help and to be able to accept it graciously; also rely on a person you can trust to count your money
 - Electronic devices

Discussion: Explain how doing a task in a little different way allows someone who cannot see to do them successfully.