

## **Activity Belts for Children with Deaf-blindness**

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Materials:

**1- You'll need an Activity Belt made from cloth and velcro straps. Families can check them out at Anchor Center or we have instructions to make them. Just ask us.**

**2- You'll need different textures and materials to fasten to the belt for your child to explore. Be sure to have safe materials; no lead paint beads or objects smaller than can fit through a toilet paper roll.**

Directions

**Place the belt around the child's waist and monitor. Observe and watch what your child likes to grab and touch and fidget with. Some children may feel uncomfortable with it around their waist. Give them time and different ways to explore with the belt before putting it on. Also, be aware of how many objects your child would enjoy. It's always a good idea to start small and increase.**

Target Areas **Deaf-blind, fine motor, sensory**

**When we set up "active learning spaces" such as this belt, we give our children opportunities for incidental exploration. Children with limited vision and hearing need support in accessing materials. We must bring the world to the child with deaf-blindness. This simple activity increases the development for use of hands and exploration. Bingo, exactly what we want. It also coincidentally could help eliminate self-stemming behaviors. When using the belt, the child can find and explore what is in close proximity to them.**

See [activelearningspaces.org](https://www.activelearningspaces.org) for more ideas like this one.

