

# Are You... A TACTILE LEARNER?

If you learn with your hands, you may be a tactile (or kinesthetic) learner. If you love learning by touching things and moving them around in order to understand them, this might be your learning style. If this is you, you probably really like best the teachers who encourage you to be active in learning and who offer you "hands-on experiences."

## See It. Feel It. Make it Yours!

If you are a tactile learner, it may be a little harder for you to learn when the teacher is talking and you're not active. In that case, sit up front, where it will be easier for you to concentrate and pay attention. Then, take lots of notes or draw pictures about what the teacher is talking about. Drawing pictures will help you stay focused. If you're writing notes, don't worry about spelling or grammar; just get the important information down on paper as words or in a chart.

When you are studying those notes at home, walk around and read your notes aloud. And think about ways you could make models of what you are studying so that you can create a study tool that you could hold and work with. For example, let's say you need to alphabetize a list of words. Instead of listing the words on a piece of paper, you might find it easier to write each word on a 3x5 card so you could actually move the cards around to get them in order. That same trick would work with important dates that you have to remember for a history class.

Whatever your learning style may be, it's great for you. There are no bad learning styles – only the one that works best for you. Knowing your style makes you a stronger learner.

The fact is that although you have a learning style, it is most likely a mix of styles. You probably are a little bit of each type of learner. You need to figure out which is your strongest style. Once you know which style suits you, it will be easy for you to study in the way that will help you understand and remember what you have to know. Your learning style might even help you pick a career one day as you try to do what works best for you – for life!



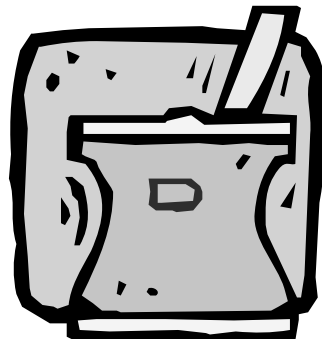
## Brain Builders Challenges

Here are some more riddles to challenge your brain. To solve these riddles, pay attention to details and read carefully, just as you would if you were taking a test. Zero in on the question and go back to the text looking only for information about the question.



**#5**

You are the chief scientist in a lab. Your lab has been open for seven years. In the lab are bacteria and other species for research, test tubes, microscopes, and other lab machinery. Five other people work at the lab, but right now two of them are traveling in Brazil to collect specimens. Four students are visiting the lab to learn about science. They want to know: How old is the chief scientist?



**#6**

You are a neurobiologist performing a very important test on a patient. You put your patients in a special machine that allows you to measure their brain activity. In this test, you flash pictures of objects on a video screen, and the patients identify the object. The test takes 80 minutes, and you always finish on time. Then one day, a patient comes in with severe memory loss. She cannot even remember her own name. This time, the test takes 1 hour and 20 minutes. Why aren't you surprised?



**Answers:**  
#5: The first line holds the answer. You are the chief scientist so your age is the answer. The trick was not to get distracted by all the other details.  
#6: 80 minutes is the same as 1 hour and 20 minutes. The key was to pay attention only to the detail about the time.