

Sensory Differences



Common areas of gifting or strength

- One or more senses may be acute
- Adaptability

Common areas of challenge

- One or more senses are limited, processed differently or not at all -this may be true of a person's hearing, vision, sense of taste, smell or touch, balance, or even body awareness

Quick facts

- Senses develop at different rates in the human body. Infants feel before they are even born, taste soon after, and usually develop smell, hearing and vision within their first year. Balance and body awareness can take much longer.
- The acuity of senses usually fades with age. Hearing, vision, and balance are often noticeable differences.
- Trauma, illness, injury, even medications and diet can have effects on the senses.
- A person can be born with differences in any of the senses, for many reasons, or may have a different way of processing the sensory information from their eyes, skin, ears, nose, or whole body.

Resources

Further Learning

- <https://www.crcna.org/disability/resources>
- understood.org on [understanding-sensory-processing-issues](#)
- babysense.com/advice-and-tips/the-secret-world-of-the-unborn-how-your-babys-senses-develop-in-the-womb/

Books for Adults

- [Accessible Gospel, Inclusive Worship](#), by Barbara J. Newman
- *Barriers to Bridges*, by
- *Signs of Love*, by Lori Buck
- *The Out of Sync Child*, by Carol Kranowitz

Books for Kids

- See list on parentbooks.ca/Blind_&_Visually_Impaired.html
- *El Deafo*, by Cece Bell -also see hearinglikeme.com/6-hearing-loss-related-books-and-others-my-deaf-child-loves/
- *Sensitive Sam*, by Marla Roth-Fisch

Videos

- Ability Revolution's #FlipTheScript Episode 1 "The Sighted" (2:57) [youtube.com/watch?v=W_glxo-9iu8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_glxo-9iu8)
- Ability Revolution's #FlipTheScript Episode 2 "The Walker" (2:36) <https://youtu.be/GjIZ6D7G1B4>