

DETERMINING PARTS-WHOLE RELATIONSHIPS

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THE WHOLE OBJECT

Human Hand

For illustration
purposes only



PARTS OF THE OBJECT

Moving fingers

Flexible Palm

Nails

Opposable thumb

Sensitive finger tips

Finger articulations



WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE PARTS WERE MISSING?

Can't clutch
Can't grasp
Can't pick

Can't Scoop
Hold between
fingers

Lose support
for positioning,
manipulation,
and firm grip

Can't Carry or
push

Expose soft
side of finger
tips

Can't scratch

Lose ability
to move or
turn around
objects, can't
grasp

Can't scratch

Lose feel or
sense of
texture and
other aspects
of sensory
touch

Can't claw,
Can't fine turn
objects

Lose strong
and fine grip

Can't claw,
Can't fine turn
objects

WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF THE PARTS?

Pick up or
hold objects
delicately

Help hold, grip

Help scoop
effectively

Controlled
positioning

Support for
manipulation,
Strong grip,
Carry, push

Protect vulnerable
side of sensitive
finger tips

Fine manip-
ulation ability
to grasp and
feel or discern
texture

Basic sensory
touch abilities
(e.g. feel heat)

Fine control
of grip, claw
into things,
and help fine
manipulation



WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARTS AND THE WHOLE?

Combination of strong grip, fine manipulation, and fine touch sensory
abilities needed for skillful craft and tool-making

sensitivity