

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

Where Was That?

How do you know when someone taps you on the shoulder? Your sense of touch, of course! But did you know that your sense of touch is different on different parts of your body? Measure your touch sensitivity in this experiment.

Get two colors of washable markers and a ruler, and then pair up with a friend. Have your friend close their eyes while you mark a spot onto their skin. Now ask your friend to use another color marker to mark the same spot (make sure their eyes are still closed!). Using your ruler, measure the distance between the two spots and fill in the table below. The smaller the distance, the more sensitive that body part is to touch.

Where?	Distance?
Arm	
Back of Hand	
Palm of Hand	
Neck	

Which areas of the body are the most sensitive? Which are the least sensitive? Why do you think that some parts of the body are more sensitive than others?

Thanks to Dr. Eric Chudler for his website describing this experiment.