

# Thumbless Tinkering

Most primates (including humans) have opposable thumbs – but not colobus monkeys! They live high in trees and don't really need thumbs! Do you wonder what this might be like? Try completing the activities below without using your thumbs.

## Materials:

- Random object
- Pencil
- Paper
- Shoe with laces
- Stopwatch or phone timer
- Optional: tape or glove

## Procedure:

1. Complete the following tasks as you would normally.
2. Then try to complete the same task without using your thumbs. (If needed, use tape or a glove to hold your thumb in place against your hand.)
3. If interested, measure and compare the amount of time it takes to do these tasks with and without using your thumb.

	Amount of time using thumb	Amount of time without using thumb
Pick up an object from the floor		
Write your name with a pencil		
Fold a piece of paper 5 times		
Tie your shoe in a double knot		
Twist a door knob to open the door		

