Investigation #3 – 5th grade

FOSS: Human Body, Investigation #4 Coordination, Part #1 Stimulus/Response

by Schmitt, Spaulding, and Stauffer

Timing: 50-60 minutes

Big Idea/Science Concepts:

* the action of bones, muscles, and central nervous system working together is called coordination
* stimulus is an event that stimulates a response
* a response is a reaction to stimulus
* response time is the length of time between a stimulus and a response

Hook:

- use different items to touch – soft, rough, warm, cold – to introduce stimuli

Necessary prior knowledge/experience:

* basic knowledge of body systems that are involved in movement
* prior knowledge of touch/stimuli

Suggested improvements:

* teacher determine distance to lower cup each time – instead of following directions which suggest allowing group to determine distance to lower cup
* have a hand template below cup and student must keep hand in place to eliminate early movement

Lesson Extension:

* time response time using right/left hand and right/left foot
* graph findings

Other Materials – needed for extensions:

* graph paper
* stop watch

Reflections:

Students will enjoy the process of trying to improve their reaction time.