

Senses!



Lesson Overview

The Palm

Learners explore different materials using their senses.

Suggested Grade Levels: K~2

Standards for Lesson

Content Standard A: Science as Inquiry

K-4: Ask questions about objects, organisms, and events in the environment.

Time Needed

This lesson takes several class periods. Sample schedule:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Day One: | Complete the Engage and Explore portion of the lesson |
| Day Two: | Complete the Explain portion of lesson |
| Day Three: | Complete the Elaborate and Evaluate portion of the lesson |

Materials for Lesson

- Film canisters
- scented oils or other objects that smell (cotton ball with vinegar)
- Rice

Content Background

We use our noses to smell. The human nose is capable of detecting over 10,000 different odors. Many other animals, such as sharks, have a sense of smell far superior than humans.

We use our tongue and taste buds to taste different things. Ask each person what he/she tastes. 7 out of 10 people will taste something bitter. 3 out of 10 will not taste anything.

Humans have a sense of touch covering their bodies. The skin has many nerves that send impulses to the brain. Some parts of our body, like our fingertips have more nerves than other parts of our bodies, making them more sensitive.

Engage

Ask students to describe how they think scientists explore their world? Post responses on the board. Tell students today they are going to explore objects using their sense organs.

Explore

Using the prepared samples, provide each student with a film canister.

Have students use their sense of smelling and hearing to try to make a prediction of what they think is inside their canisters.

Instruct the students to describe what they have experienced.

Have students find the other student that has the same item inside their canister.

All students to sit and try to identify what they think is in their canister.

Explain

After students have finished making observations about their mystery canisters, discuss how scientists use observations to explore the world. When making observations, scientists only use their senses and words to describe what they see, hear, smell, taste, and feel.

Ask the children:

- Why do we need our five senses?
- What can we do with our senses?

Elaborate

Word Sort: in a center, have students sort picture cards into groups to answer the following statements:

- Objects that smell good.
- Objects that smell bad.
- Objects that taste good.
- Objects that you should not taste.
- Objects that feel hard.
- Objects that feel soft.
- Objects that you can see.

Open sort: for those students that are ready, have them complete an open sort and state why they sorted the pictures into groups.

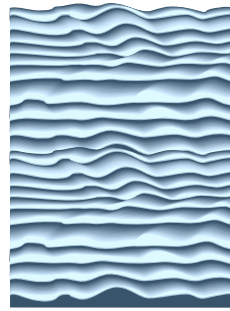
Evaluate

Go over the sort with the children. Make sure students can identify which sense is being used and which organ.

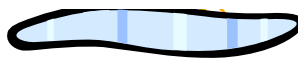
Texture

Is it...

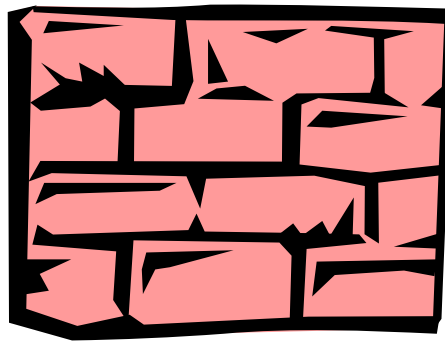
Rough



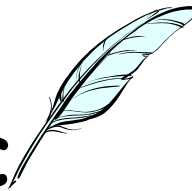
Smooth

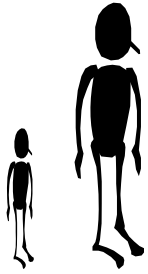


Hard



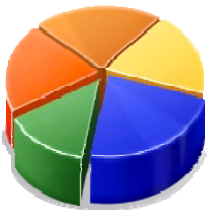
Soft





Size

Is it big or small?



Color

What color is it?

Red Blue Green Yellow
Orange Black



