



Oxford Read and Discover

Your Five Senses

Robert Quinn

Read and discover all about your five wonderful senses ...

- How do your eyes work?
- What's under your skin?

Read and discover more about the world! This series of non-fiction readers provides interesting and educational content, with activities and project work.

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Level 3

600 headwords



Level 4

750 headwords



Level 5

900 headwords



Level 6

1,050 headwords

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Introduction

You have five different senses. They give you lots of information about the world around you.

Sight you see things with your eyes.

Hearing you hear things with your ears.

Smell you smell things with your nose.

Taste you taste things with your tongue.

Touch you touch and feel things with your skin.

**What are these people doing?
Which senses are they using?**



**Now read and discover
more about your five senses!**

1

Your Sense of Sight

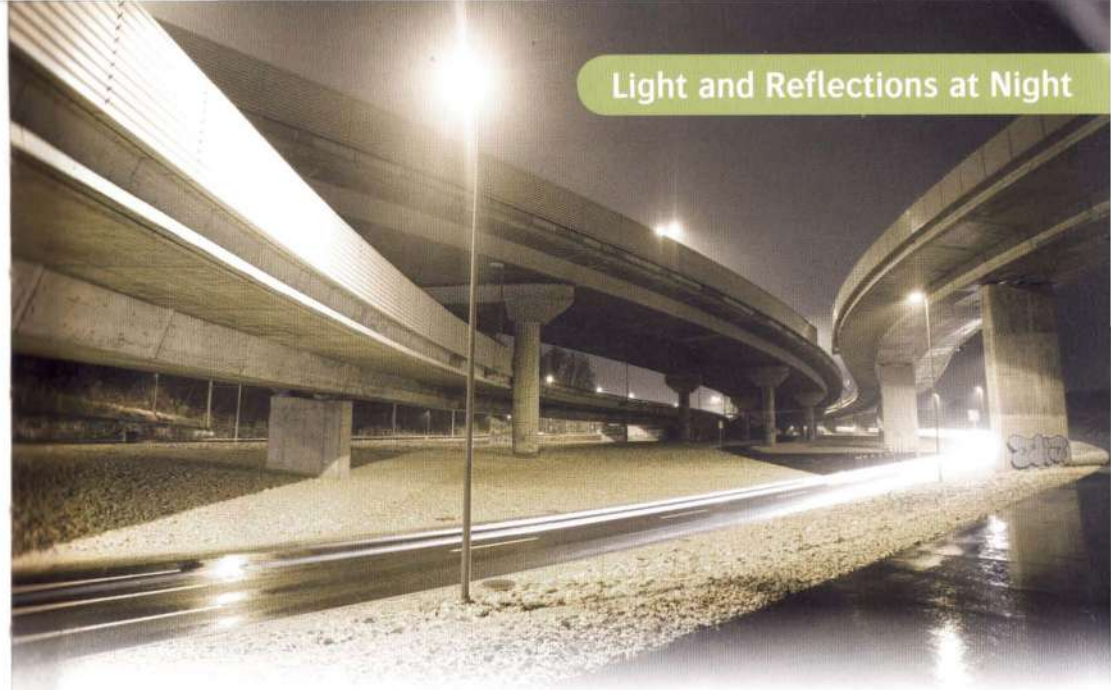
Your sense of sight lets you see people and objects around you. It also lets you read books, look at photos, and watch television.

Your sense of sight helps to keep you safe, too. When you cross the street you can watch for traffic. You can see when the traffic lights are green, yellow, or red.

Traffic in Tokyo, Japan



Light and Reflections at Night

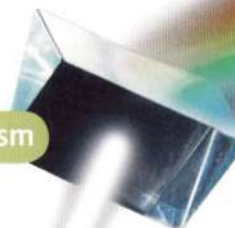


You can see because your eyes detect light. Light can come from the sun or from a lamp. It can also reflect off things around you. You can't see anything when it's very dark because there's no light!

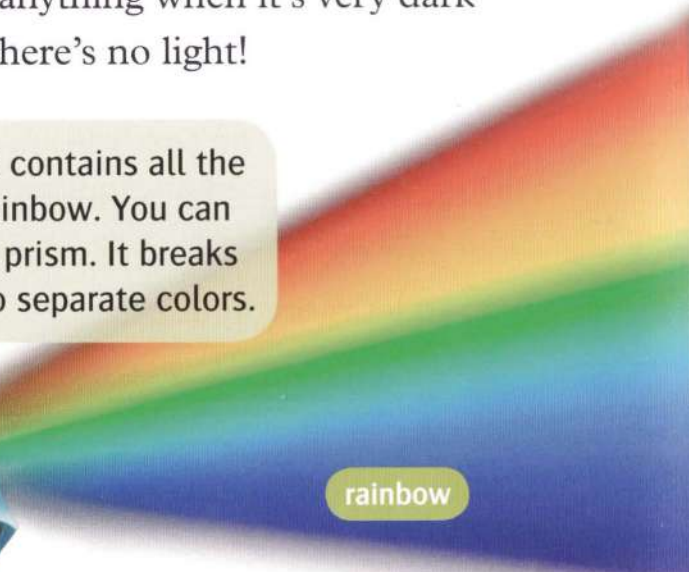


White light contains all the colors of the rainbow. You can see this with a prism. It breaks white light into separate colors.

prism

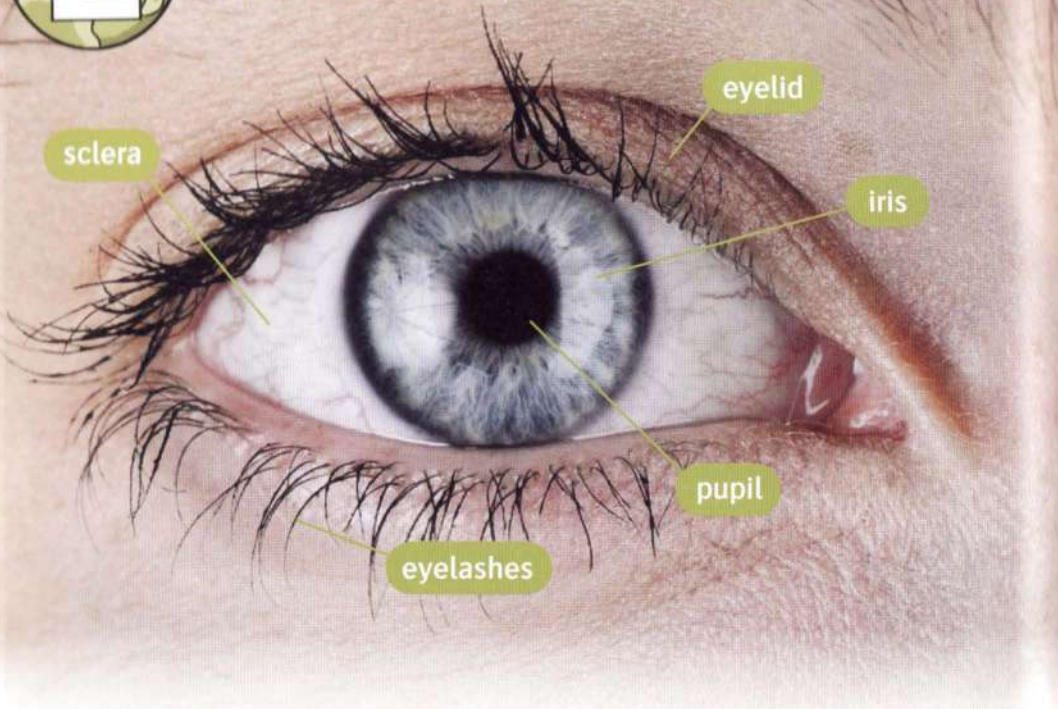


rainbow



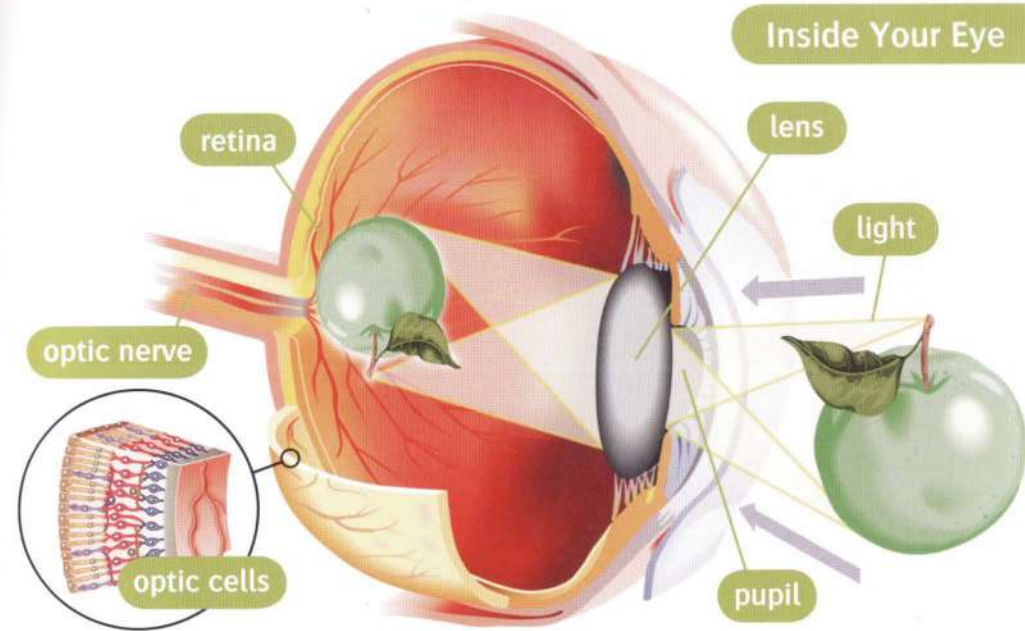
2

A Closer Look



Look at one of your eyes in a mirror. The white part is the sclera and the colored part is the iris. The small black spot in the center is the pupil. The pupil is a hole that lets light into the eye. When it's dark, your pupils open to let more light in.

Your eyelids and eyelashes protect your eyes from dust and dirt. Your eyelids also keep light out.



Light reflects off an object. The light then enters the eye and goes through a lens. This lens focuses the light on the retina at the back of the eye. It makes a picture of the object on the retina.

The retina has millions of optic cells. They detect light and colors. The optic nerve collects the information and takes it to the brain.



Cameras have lenses, too. What other things have lenses?



➔ Go to pages 26–27 for activities.

3

Your Sense of Hearing

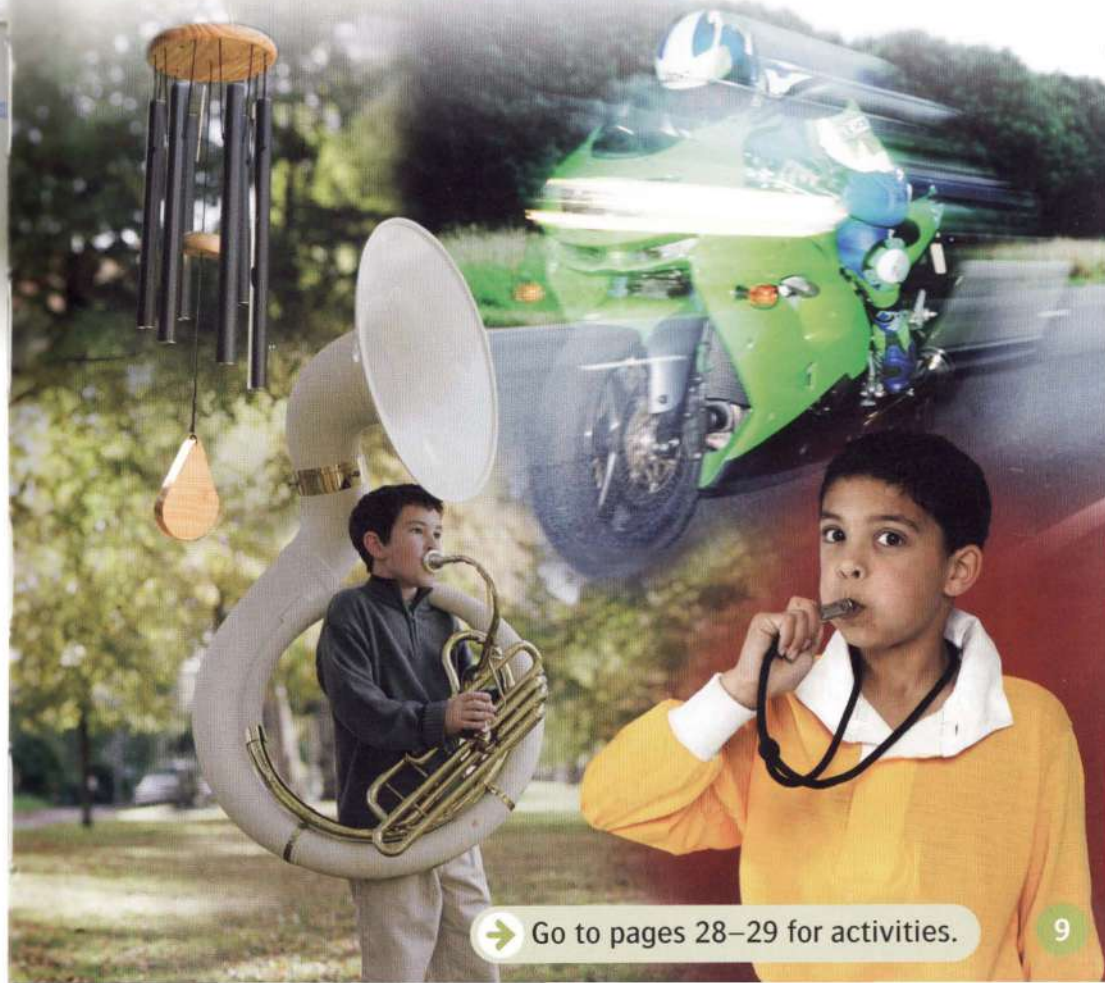


Your sense of hearing helps you in many ways. You can hear the telephone when it rings, and listen to people when they talk to you. You can listen to your favorite music, too!

Your ears also help you to locate sounds. You can hear when sounds come from the right or the left. Then you can follow the sound by turning your head.

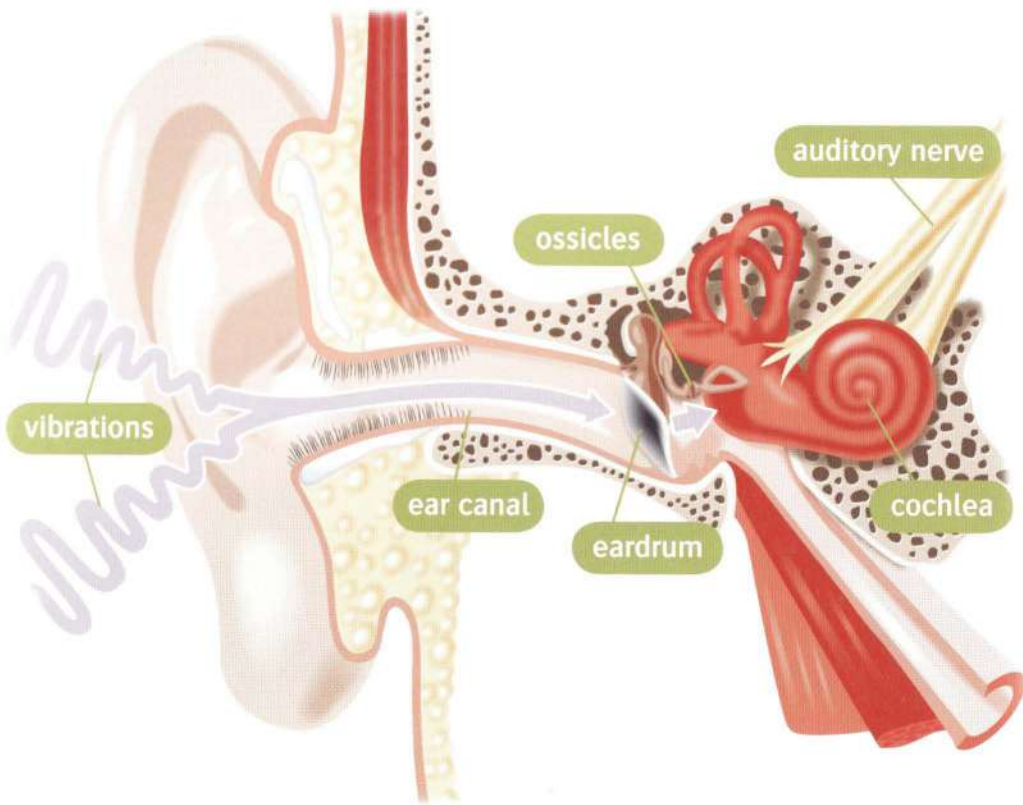
You can hear lots of different sounds. Some things make loud sounds, like a motorcycle or a jet plane. Other things make soft sounds, like a clock ticking or wind chimes blowing in the wind.

Some things make high sounds, like a whistle or a flute. Other things make very low sounds, like a tuba or a big bass drum.



4

Inside Your Ear



Sounds are vibrations in the air that your ears can detect. First the vibrations go into your ear canal. Then your eardrum vibrates. Behind your eardrum there are three small bones called ossicles. They also vibrate.

Next to the ossicles there is a spiral tube called the cochlea. It detects vibrations from the ossicles. Then the auditory nerve collects the information and takes it to your brain. This is how you hear.



The ossicles are the smallest bones in your body. This is how small they are!



A Cochlear Implant

Some people don't hear well. Sometimes they wear a hearing aid to make sounds louder. Other people have a cochlear implant. The implant detects sounds with a microphone. Then it sends electrical signals to the cochlea inside the ear.



Your nose lets you smell things. Some things smell good, like pizza or fresh cookies. The yummy smells tell you they are probably good to eat. Flowers and perfume often smell good, too. What other things smell good to you? Can you eat them?



Some things smell bad, like food waste or bad eggs. Yuck! Your nose tells you they aren't good to eat. They can make you very sick.

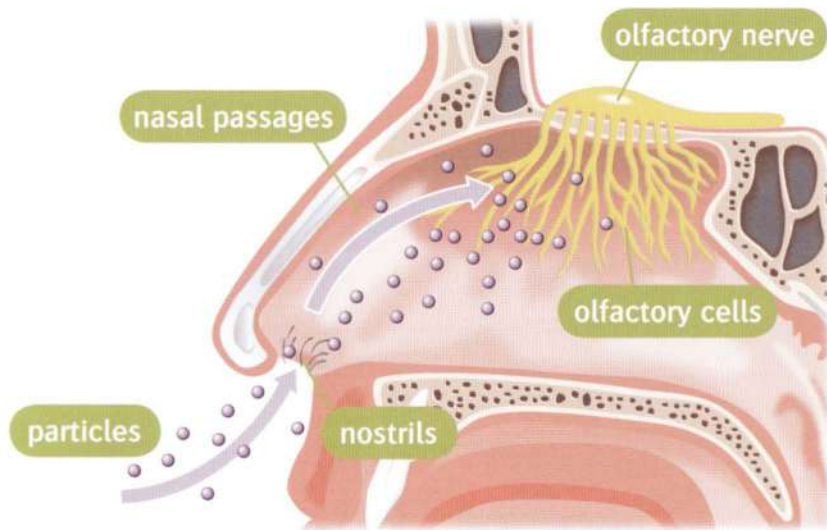
Your nose tells you about other dangers, too. When there's a fire, you can smell the smoke and call for help. Poisonous chemicals often smell bad. Your nose tells you they are dangerous.



Skunks can spray a liquid that smells terrible. They use it for protection!



How Your Nose Works



Smells are clouds of tiny particles in the air, like smoke or perfume. When you breathe, these particles go into your nose through your nostrils. Then they go up into your nasal passages.



When something smells good, you open your nostrils wider. When something smells bad, you wrinkle your nose. This closes your nostrils, so the bad smell can't get in.



You have about five million olfactory cells in your nasal passages. These cells can detect thousands of different smells. Your olfactory nerve collects all the information and then takes it to your brain. Your brain recognizes familiar smells and remembers new smells for the future.



Bears have very sensitive noses. Their sense of smell is about 2,000 times better than ours. They use their sense of smell to find food.



7

Your Sense of Taste



Sweet and Sour Tastes

Your sense of taste is very important. It lets you enjoy the different tastes of your food. Your tongue can detect sweet, sour, salty, savory, and bitter tastes.

Ice cream tastes sweet because we make it with lots of sugar. Some foods, like honey, are naturally sweet. Lemon juice and natural yogurt taste sour. We can add sugar or honey to make them taste sweeter.

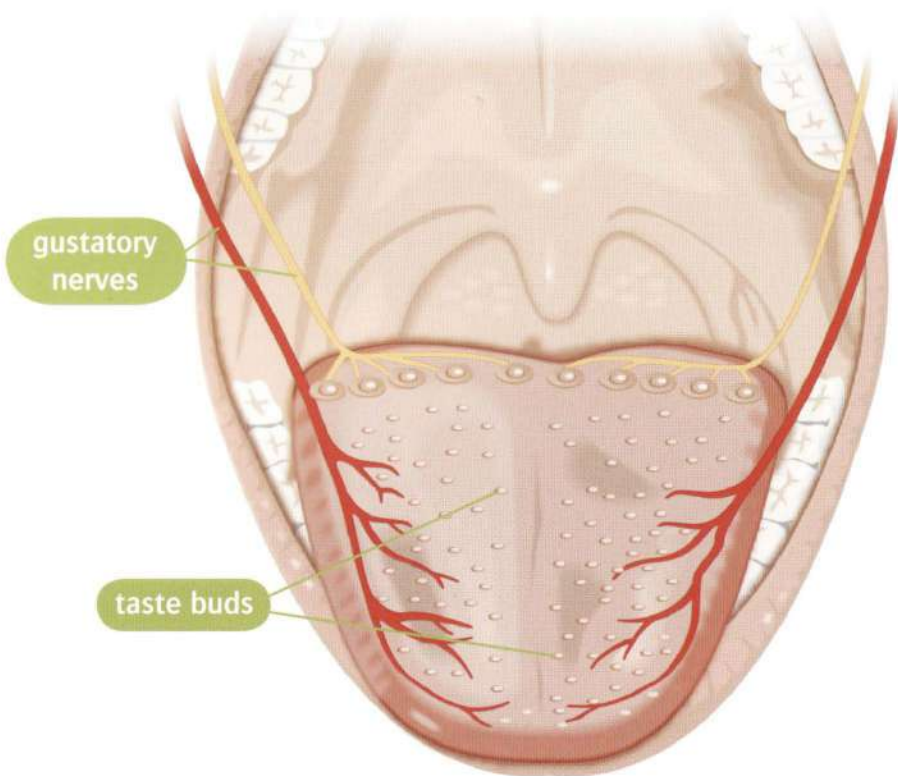


Salty, Savory, and Bitter Tastes

Food tastes salty when it has lots of salt. Many people add salt to foods like popcorn or French fries. Foods, like meat and cheese, have a savory taste called *umami*. This is a Japanese word.

Coffee tastes bitter, so many people add sugar to make it sweet. Orange peel is also bitter, but we can make it into sweet marmalade.

On Your Tongue



gustatory nerves

taste buds

Do you know how your sense of taste works? Look at your tongue. Can you see lots of little pink bumps? Those bumps are your taste buds. When you touch food with your tongue, your taste buds detect all the tastes. Then your gustatory nerves take the information to your brain.



Taste Buds

Your tongue has about 10,000 taste buds. Most of them are at the front, back, and sides of your tongue. Your taste buds get old quickly, so your tongue needs to grow new ones. It only takes two weeks to replace all your taste buds!



Your senses of taste and smell work together. That's why you can't taste your food very well when you have a cold.



9

Your Sense of Touch

Your skin gives you information about the things that you touch. You can feel temperature, so you know when things are hot or cold. This helps to keep you safe. You don't want to burn yourself! You can also feel the temperature of the air around you, so you know when to put on warm or cool clothes.



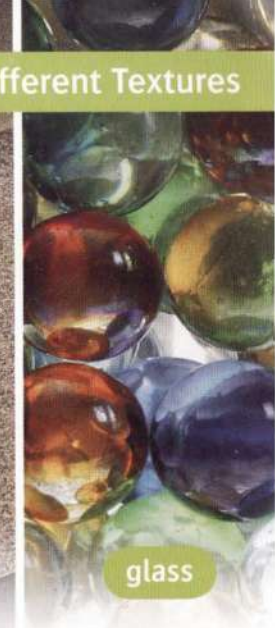
rocks



feather



sandpaper



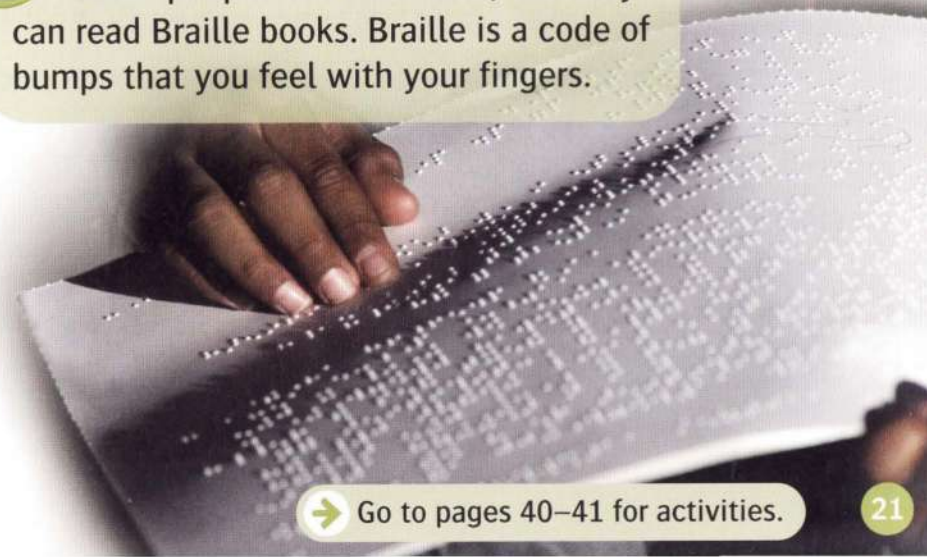
glass

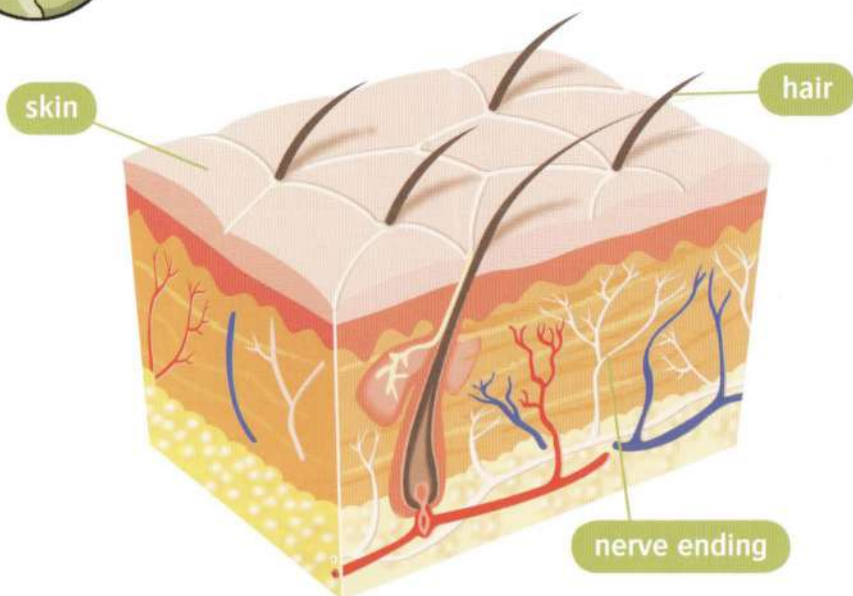
Different Textures

You can feel different textures. Some things feel hard, like rocks. Other things feel soft, like feathers. Some things feel rough, like sandpaper. Other things feel smooth, like the surface of glass.



Some people can't see well, but they can read Braille books. Braille is a code of bumps that you feel with your fingers.





There are millions of nerve endings under your skin. They detect temperature and textures. Then they send the information to your brain. Your face, neck, hands, and feet are very sensitive. They have more nerve endings than other parts of your body.



Your nerve endings don't work very well when they are cold. That's why your nose feels numb on cold winter days.



Your nerve endings also protect you when you hurt yourself. They send pain signals to your brain. The pain doesn't feel good, but it tells your brain that you are in danger.

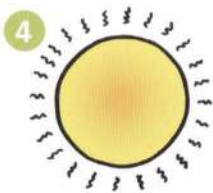
Your senses give you information about the world around you. They also help to keep you safe. Which senses are the most important to you, and why?

1 Your Sense of Sight

Read pages 4–5.

lamp eye photo sun
rainbow traffic lights

1 Write the words.



- 1 photo 4 _____
2 _____ 5 _____
3 _____ 6 _____

2 Complete the sentences.

- I can w a t c h for traffic in the street.
- I can _____ books.
- I can _____ the colors of the rainbow.
- I can _____ television.
- I can _____ at photos of my family.

3 Circle the correct words.

- My sense of sight lets me hear / see objects.
- I can see because my eyes detect / reflect light.
- Traffic lights show three / four different colors.
- A prism breaks white / green light into colors.
- I can't see at night because it's very dark / safe.
- Light can cross / reflect off things around us.
- White light contains all the colors / lights of the rainbow.
- Light can come from a book / lamp.

4 Order the letters with the same color. Then write the words.

p	d	o	l	b	o
a	p	w	r	e	i
y	r	p	e	c	s
l	n	r	s	o	s
h	a	m	r	m	a
s	i	k	t	o	o

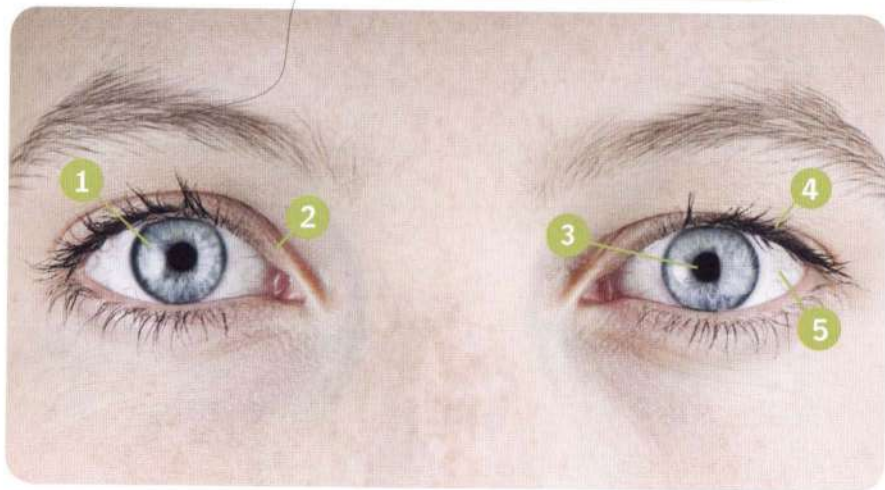
- 1 ● colors
2 ● _____
3 ● _____
4 ● _____
5 ● _____
6 ● _____
7 ● _____

2 A Closer Look

← Read pages 6–7.

1 Write the words.

eyelashes eyelid iris
pupil sclera

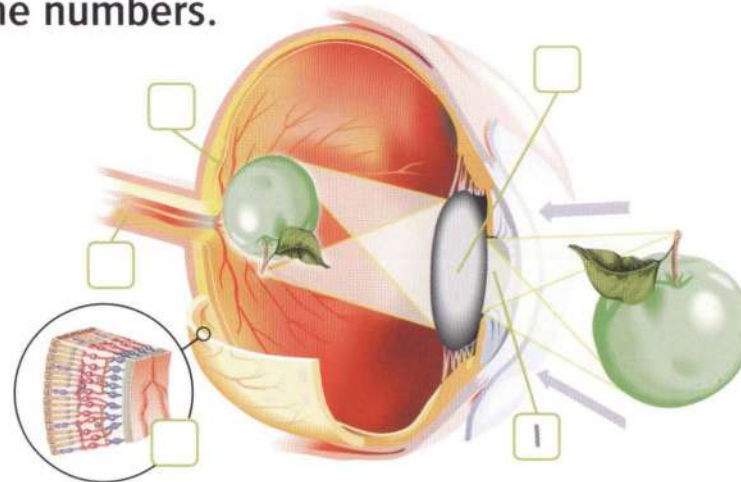


- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 _____ | 4 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 5 _____ |
| 3 _____ | |

2 Write *true* or *false*.

- The sclera is the colored part of my eye. false
- My eyelashes keep out light when I sleep. _____
- My pupils open more when it's dark. _____
- My eyelids protect my eyes from dust. _____
- The iris is a small black spot in my eye. _____

3 Complete the sentences. Then write the numbers.



The (1) pupil lets light into your eye. The (2) _____ focuses light on the (3) _____. The (4) _____ detect light and colors. Then the (5) _____ takes the information to the brain.

4 Answer the questions.

1 Where is the retina?

The retina is at the back of the eye.

2 Why do your pupils open more in the dark?

3 How many optic cells does the retina have?

4 What color are your irises?

3 Your Sense of Hearing

← Read pages 8–9.

1 Match. Then write sentences.

I can listen to my
I can hear sounds
I can listen to people
I can hear when

the telephone rings.
favorite music.
from the right or the left.
when they talk to me.

- 1 I can listen to my favorite music.
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

2 Write the words.

bass drum motorcycle flute clock whistle
jet plane wind chimes tuba



- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 _____ | 5 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 6 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 7 _____ |
| 4 _____ | 8 _____ |

3 Circle the correct words.

- 1 A whistle makes makes **high** / low sounds.
- 2 A jet plane makes very **loud** / soft sounds.
- 3 A tuba makes **high** / low sounds.
- 4 Wind chimes make **loud** / soft sounds.
- 5 A flute makes **high** / low sounds.
- 6 A motorcycle makes very **loud** / soft sounds.

4 Find and write the words.

high tuba souloudssoundorhear onom
motorcycle dbon flute yum soft omusicerlisten

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| 1 <u>high</u> | 6 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 7 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 8 _____ |
| 4 _____ | 9 _____ |
| 5 _____ | 10 _____ |

5 Complete the sentences.

- 1 I can hear _____.
- 2 I can listen to _____.

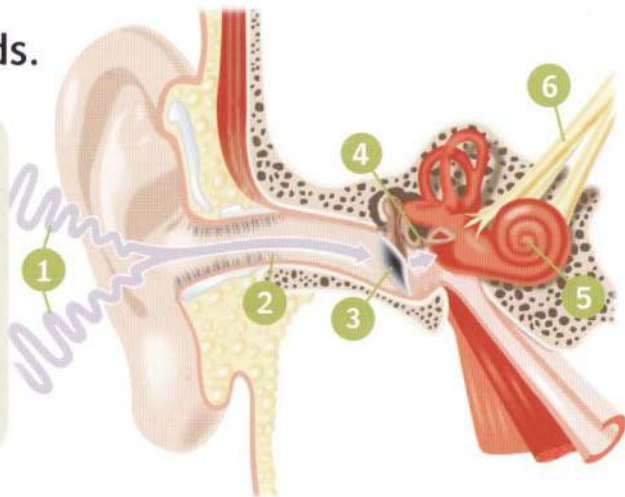
4

Inside Your Ear

← Read pages 10–11.

1 Write the words.

auditory nerve
vibrations
cochlea
ossicles
eardrum
ear canal



- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 _____ | 4 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 5 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 6 _____ |

2 Number the sentences in order.

- ☐ Then the ossicles vibrate too.
- ☐ The information goes to the brain.
- ☒ 1 Sound vibrations go into the ear canal.
- ☐ The cochlea detects the vibrations.
- ☐ The eardrum vibrates.
- ☐ The auditory nerve collects the information.

3 Write *true* or *false*.

- 1 Sounds are vibrations in the air. _____
- 2 The ossicles are two small bones. _____
- 3 The auditory nerve is a spiral tube. _____
- 4 Hearing aids make sounds softer. _____
- 5 Cochlear implants send light signals to the brain. _____

4 Find and write the words.

a	u	d	i	t	o	r	y	n	e	r	v	e
a	b	r	v	v	i	b	r	a	t	i	o	n
c	b	b	m	e	a	r	c	a	n	a	l	l
o	j	b	o	n	e	s	c	q	f	g	q	y
c	r	i	m	p	l	a	n	t	s	n	r	u
h	s	m	i	c	r	o	p	h	o	n	e	j
l	d	m	w	c	c	e	a	r	d	r	u	m
e	t	b	k	d	o	f	h	p	s	a	z	a
a	k	o	h	e	a	r	i	n	g	a	i	d
w	o	s	s	i	c	l	e	s	g	h	o	x

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 <u>b</u> _____ | 6 <u>c</u> _____ |
| 2 <u>o</u> _____ | 7 <u>a</u> _____ |
| 3 <u>v</u> _____ | 8 <u>h</u> _____ |
| 4 <u>e</u> _____ | 9 <u>i</u> _____ |
| 5 <u>e</u> _____ | 10 <u>m</u> _____ |

5 Your Sense of Smell

← Read pages 12–13.

1 Write the words.

cookies flowers food waste
perfume pizza bad eggs



- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 _____ | 4 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 5 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 6 _____ |

2 Complete the chart.

They smell good.	They smell bad.	They're good to eat.
<u>cookies</u>		

3 Match.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 I don't like this perfume. | Are you making cookies? |
| 2 What's that terrible smell? | It doesn't smell very good. |
| 3 Do you smell smoke? | They're probably bad. |
| 4 Something smells yummy! | Yes, I think there's a fire! |
| 5 Don't eat those old eggs! | I think it's a skunk! |

4 Order the words. Then answer the questions.

- does / waste / How / food / smell?
How does food waste smell? It smells terrible.
- the / smell / like / you / of / pizza? / Do

- good? / chemicals / Do / poisonous / smell

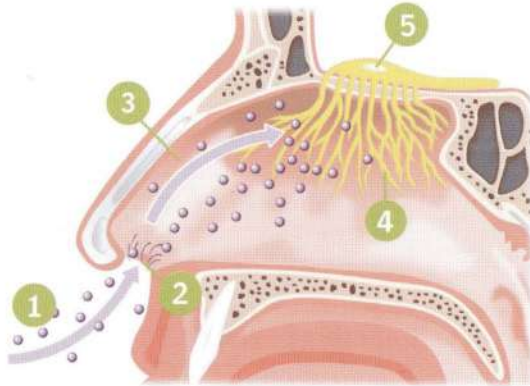
- your / is / What / smell? / favorite

6 How Your Nose Works

← Read pages 14–15.

1 Write the words.

nasal passages
olfactory nerve
nostrils
olfactory cells
particles



- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

2 Complete the sentences.

air brain clouds different nasal
nerve nose nostrils olfactory particles

- 1 Smells are _____ of tiny particles in the _____.
- 2 My _____ let the smell particles into my _____.
- 3 Then the _____ go up into my _____ passages.
- 4 My _____ cells detect all the _____ smells.
- 5 My olfactory _____ takes information to my _____.

3 Answer the questions.

- 1 When do your nostrils open wider?

- 2 Where are your olfactory cells?

- 3 How many olfactory cells do you have?

- 4 What smells does your brain recognize?

4 Write the words. Then write the secret word.

e lc	1 →	c	e	l	l				
ve ^r ne	2 →								
s ^l co _u d	3 →								
t ^o sr _n il	4 →								
s _a p _s ages	5 →								
to _r lo _f ac _y	6 →								

The secret word is:

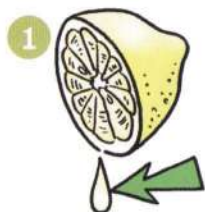
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

7 Your Sense of Taste

← Read pages 16–17.

1 Write the words.

honey French fries salt
orange peel lemon juice sugar



- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1 _____ | 4 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 5 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 6 _____ |

2 Circle the correct words.

- Bitter / Salty foods have lots of salt.
- Honey is a naturally sweet / salty food.
- People often put salt / sugar on French fries.
- Orange peel and coffee taste sour / bitter.
- Natural yogurt tastes sweet / sour.
- Sweet foods have lots of salt / sugar.

3 Match. Then write the sentences.

Many people add salt
We can add sugar
Your tongue detects
Ice cream usually has
Meat and cheese
We can make marmalade

a lot of sugar in it.
the tastes of your food.
have a savory taste.
from bitter orange peel.
to make foods sweet.
to make foods salty.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

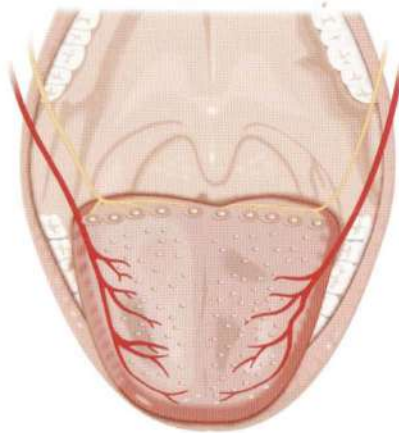
4 Write about foods that you like.

5 Write about foods that you don't like.

← Read pages 18–19.

1 Complete the sentences.

brain
bumps
nerves
tastes
tongue



- 1 I have lots of taste buds on my _____.
- 2 My taste buds look like little pink _____.
- 3 My taste buds detect the _____ of my food.
- 4 The information goes to my gustatory _____.
- 5 The nerves take the information to my _____.

2 Write *true* or *false*.

- 1 My taste buds detect different smells. _____
- 2 I can't taste very well when I have a cold. _____
- 3 My tongue doesn't grow new taste buds. _____
- 4 The sides of my tongue have taste buds. _____
- 5 My tongue has about 1,000 taste buds. _____
- 6 My senses of taste and smell work together. _____

3 Find and write the words.

tastetnfoodsbumpsdurfaceltonguetsides
tastebudslonfrantenfrnervesedback

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| 1 _____ | 6 _____ |
| 2 _____ | 7 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 8 _____ |
| 4 _____ | 9 _____ |
| 5 _____ | 10 _____ |

4 Answer the questions.

- 1 How many taste buds are there on your tongue?

- 2 Where do you have most of your taste buds?

- 3 Why does your tongue replace your taste buds?

- 4 How long does it take to replace your taste buds?

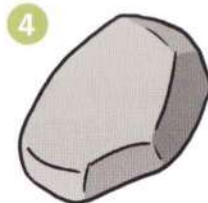
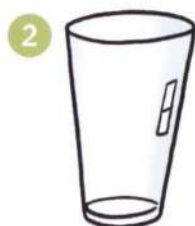
- 5 Why can't you taste things when you have a cold?

9 Your Sense of Touch

← Read pages 20–21.

1 Complete the sentences.

cold hard hot rough smooth soft



- 1 It feels _____. 4 _____
 2 It feels _____. 5 _____
 3 _____ 6 _____

2 Circle the odd one out.

- 1 ice cream fire ice
 2 bumps sandpaper glass
 3 rocks feathers glass

3 Circle the correct words.

- 1 A rock feels hard / soft when you touch it.
 2 Ice cream feels hot / cold on my tongue.
 3 A cat's tongue feels smooth / rough.
 4 Fresh pizza feels hot / cold when I touch it.
 5 The surface of a mirror feels rough / smooth.
 6 My bed feels soft / hard and comfortable.

4 Find and write the words.

t	e	m	p	e	r	a	t	u	r	e
i	e	t	d	c	o	l	d	h	d	s
l	f	x	r	o	u	k	k	y	s	m
h	b	r	t	a	g	s	h	e	o	o
g	a	c	m	u	h	o	c	o	f	o
k	a	r	a	s	r	f	f	o	t	t
o	z	s	d	o	o	e	h	m	o	h
w	a	r	m	n	l	b	n	a	k	l

- 1 s _____ 6 h _____
 2 r _____ 7 t _____
 3 h _____ 8 t _____
 4 c _____ 9 w _____
 5 s _____ 10 c _____

10 Under Your Skin

← Read pages 22–23.

1 Write the words.

face neck hands feet

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____



2 Match. Then write the sentences

My skin has millions
Nerve endings detect
My face and neck
I can't feel my skin
Pain tells my brain

are very sensitive.
that I'm in danger.
when it's very cold.
of nerve endings.
temperature and textures.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

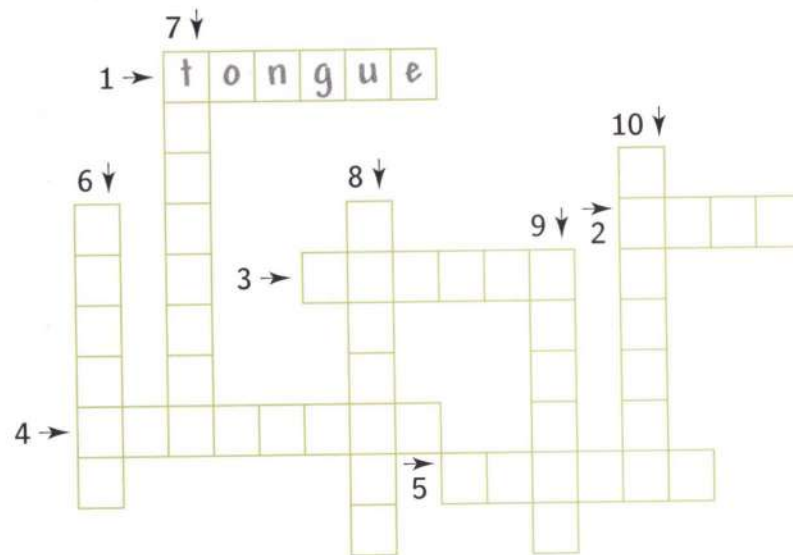
3 Complete the sentences.

endings feel nose
signals touch

danger hurt numb
safe skin

- 1 My sense of touch helps to keep me safe.
- 3 My nerve _____ are under my _____.
- 3 Pain _____ tell my brain that I'm in _____.
- 4 My _____ sometimes feels _____ on cold days.
- 5 It doesn't _____ good when I _____ myself.

4 Complete the puzzle.

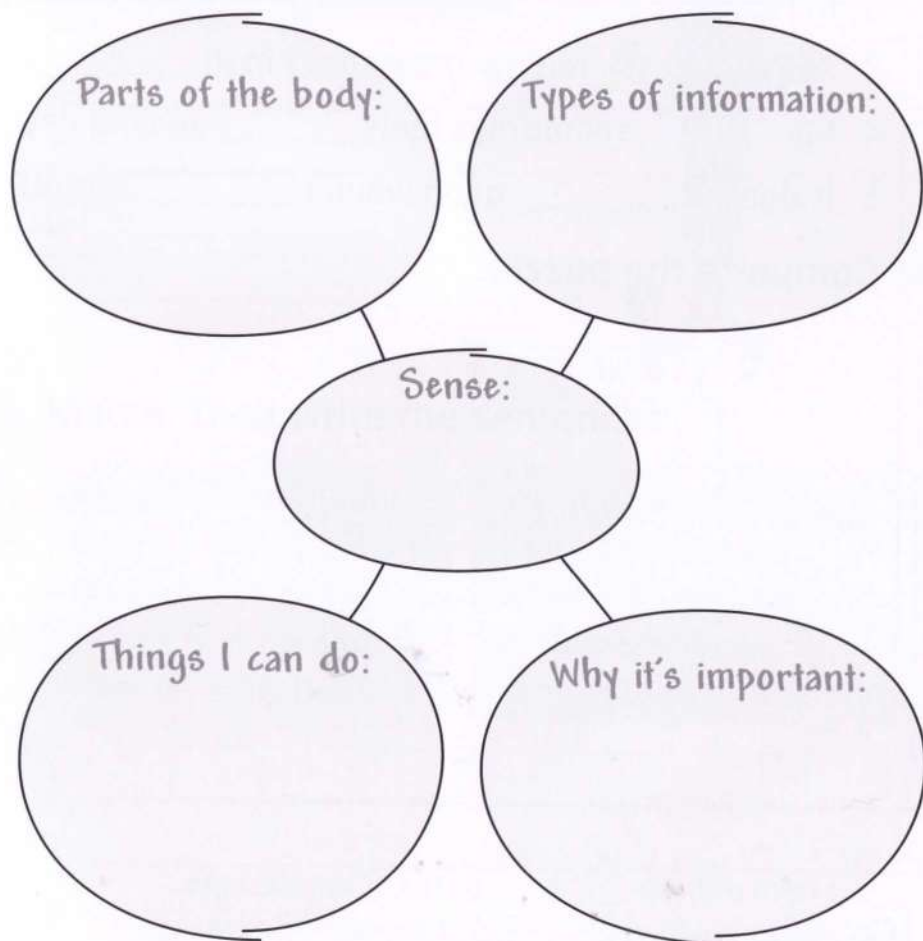


- 1 I taste with my ____.
- 2 I can see with my ____.
- 3 Some ____ are loud.
- 4 My nose has two ____.
- 5 Orange peel tastes ____.
- 6 The ____ detects light.
- 7 I can feel different ____.
- 8 The ____ is a spiral tube.
- 9 A mirror feels ____.
- 10 ____ smells good.

Project 1

A Senses Poster

- 1 Choose one of your five senses. Find or draw pictures about it.
- 2 Write notes and complete the diagram.



- 3 Make a poster. Write sentences to describe the pictures. Display your poster.

Project 2

My Senses Diary

- 1 Choose a moment when you use many of your senses.
- 2 Answer these questions.

Where are you? What are you doing?

Can you see things? How do they look?

Can you hear sounds? What types of sound are they?

Can you smell things? How do they smell?

Are you eating? How does the food taste?

Can you touch or feel things? How do they feel?

- 3 Copy your answers onto some paper. Write a title. Display your diary.

My Senses Diary - At The Beach
 I'm at the beach. I'm having lunch.
 I can see the water. It's blue and green.

Picture Dictionary



bass drum



bone



brain



burn



cookies



marmalade



meat



microphone



million



mirror



dark



dirt



dust



electrical
signals



face



neck



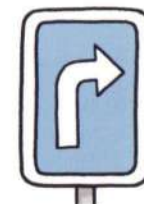
pain



perfume



poisonous
chemicals



right



fire



flute



food waste



French
fries



grow



salt



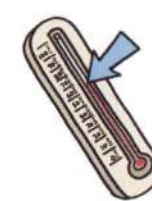
skin



smoke



sugar



temperature



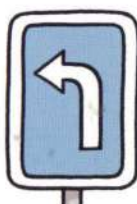
hearing
aid



hole



honey



left



light



tongue



traffic
lights



tuba



whistle



wind
chimes



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