

Making Sense of my Senses: Lab Exploration

Topics covered: In this “please touch” class, students discover how their sense organs help them explore the world and avoid danger. They rotate in small groups through learning stations highlighting each of the five senses. Each station offers a “challenge activity” as well as other interactive experiences. Students listen to bird calls, see butterflies, smell beeswax, touch fossils, feel Braille dots, examine bees, inspect minerals, use hand lenses to magnify their taste buds and encounter other “sense-ational” objects. (Tasting is one of the learning stations. Please inform the instructor if there are student food allergies.)

Ages: Pre-K-1

Purchase Details: Lab Exploration - \$5 per student

Programs can be reserved by phone: 901-636-2362

Wednesday - Saturday, 10:30 am - 5:30 pm

Objectives:

1. Name the five senses, their functions, and identify the body parts that utilize these senses.
2. Recognize that sense organs gather information from the environment and the brain processes this information.
3. Understand how the senses work together to tell about the world and contribute to personal safety.

Vocabulary:

brain
sight
hearing
taste
tongue
salty
sweet
sour

bitter
taste buds
smell
touch
skin
deaf
blind

Fun Facts:

- Butterflies see through hundreds of tiny lenses in their compound eyes.
- A snake smells with its tongue.
- A child has more taste buds than an adult.

Web Resources:

Human Senses – <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/humanbody/sense.htm>

Brain – <https://www.livescience.com/29365-human-brain.html>

American Sign Language and Braille – <http://www.acb.org/tennessee/braille.html>

Museum Resources:

- **For Your Classroom:**
 - Borrow a *Dinosaurs Suitcase Exhibit*, with object-based learning for grades K-5 including dinosaur models and casts of fossil dino teeth and claws.
 - The *Trees & Leaves Suitcase*, for grades K-8, features seeds, displays and posters.
 - *Magnifiers* has specimens for hands-on observations by grades K-2.
 - Explore animal senses using the *Insect Passport*.
- **In the galleries:** Stimulate your senses! Visit our **Natural History Exhibits** on the ground floor. Compare animal skeletons. Enjoy the dazzling colors of mineral specimens. Wonder at the intricacies of powerful bird wings. Listen to **Tyra**, the robotic *T. rex*, ...roar! Use a microphone to examine body parts of small insects.

Where: Pink Palace Discovery Lab or Classroom (for 15-32 students)

When: August-May Tuesday-Friday at 9:30 & 11 am 45-60 Minutes

- **Standards:**
 - (Grade Level) Pre-K-1
- **Tennessee: (Early Learning, Science & Health)**
 - GRADE PRE-K: PK.LS1, PK.ETS1, PK.ETS2
 - GRADE K: K.LS1, K.ETS1, K.ETS2, K.HGD.1
 - GRADE 1:
- **Mississippi: (Early Learning, Science & Health)**
 - GRADE PRE-K: L.1, P.1, T.1
 - GRADE K: LK.1B, K.1c
 - GRADE 1:
- **Arkansas: (Early Learning, Science & Health)**
 - GRADE PRE-K: ST2.1, ST3.2
 - GRADE K:
 - GRADE 1:
- **Catholic Diocese: (Early Learning, Science & Health)**
 - GRADE PRE-K:
 - GRADE K:
 - GRADE 1: 1.11.3, 1.V.6