



## Activity 1

## Can You Explain?



In the first concept you learned about animal adaptations. You likely know a lot about human senses from previous study. Now you will connect your learning about adaptations to how animals sense the world around them, and you will know how the human and animal use senses for communication and transfer information.

Think about the Egyptian mongoose. It communicates by combining units of sound that seem to us to be like chatter. These sounds allow the mongoose to communicate messages about movement and foraging to other mongooses.

How do animals sense and process information?

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**Life Skills**

I can share ideas I am not yet sure about.



## Activity 2

## Ask Questions Like a Scientist

## Dolphin Senses

As you begin to think about how **senses** are used, **consider** the dolphin. Does the dolphin have a super sense? **Think** about the information presented in the text, then **record** questions you may have.

The sense of hearing is important to all of us. We use our hearing to gather information about what is happening around us. Do all animals have the same sense of hearing? Is hearing the same in all animals?

Some animals seem to have super senses that help them survive. The dolphin is one of those animals. To survive, dolphins must be able to find food and protect themselves in dark murky waters. Dolphins use the sense of **echolocation** to find other life and objects in the water. The sound that a dolphin makes is transmitted in waves called sound waves that move through the water. When the sound waves hit objects, the waves bounce back to the dolphin in the form of an **echo**, which helps it locate prey. The **sound** waves that are created return to them as echoes. These echoes help dolphins determine the location of prey and other objects. Look at the word *echolocation*. What parts of the word help you remember how dolphins use their super sense to survive?



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I wonder . . .

**Life Skills** I can ask questions to clarify.



## Activity 3

## Evaluate Like a Scientist

## What Do You Already Know About Senses at Work?

## Animal Perceptions

**Think** about what you already know about how senses work. **Read** the list of purposes in which senses are used. Then, **list** the sense used for each purpose. If you think more than one sense may be used, write all senses you think may fit the purpose. **Write** one example for each, naming the animal and how the sense is used. For example, “My pet can recognize me by scent.” It is okay if you do not know all of the answers yet.

**Senses:**      sight      hearing      touch      taste      smell

| Purpose           | Sense | Examples |
|-------------------|-------|----------|
| Avoid danger      |       |          |
| Find food         |       |          |
| Recognize friends |       |          |
| Identify objects  |       |          |

## Sensory Response

Imagine that you touch an ice cube with your index finger. Where is the information processed to tell you that it is cold? **Circle** the correct answer.

- A. index finger      B. hand      C. nerves      D. spinal cord      E. brain



**Talk Together** Discuss one example you had that is different than your neighbor's.