

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# The Five Senses

The five senses are sight, hearing, smell, touch, and taste.

Senses are very important. They help us perceive our surroundings and gather information about the world. Write the sense word in the left column and then draw a line to the correct body part.

hearing  
sight  
smell  
taste  
touch

nose

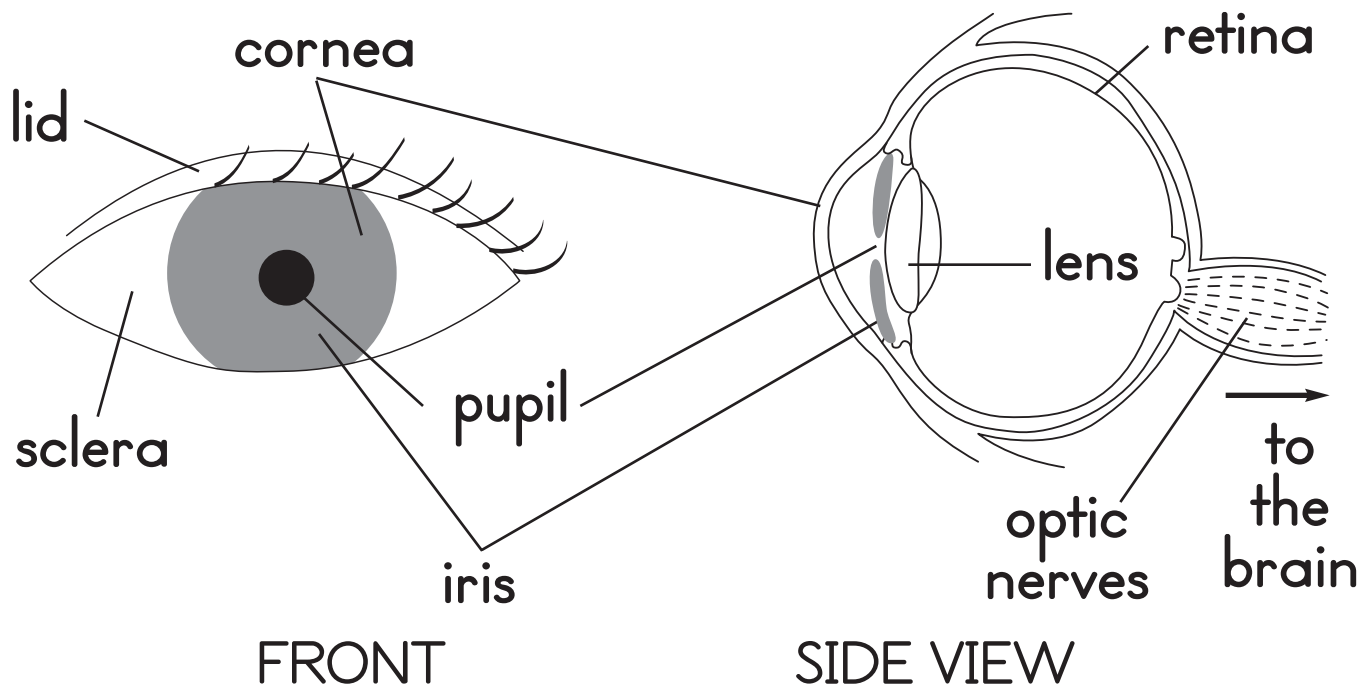
mouth

skin

ear

eye

# Sense of Sight

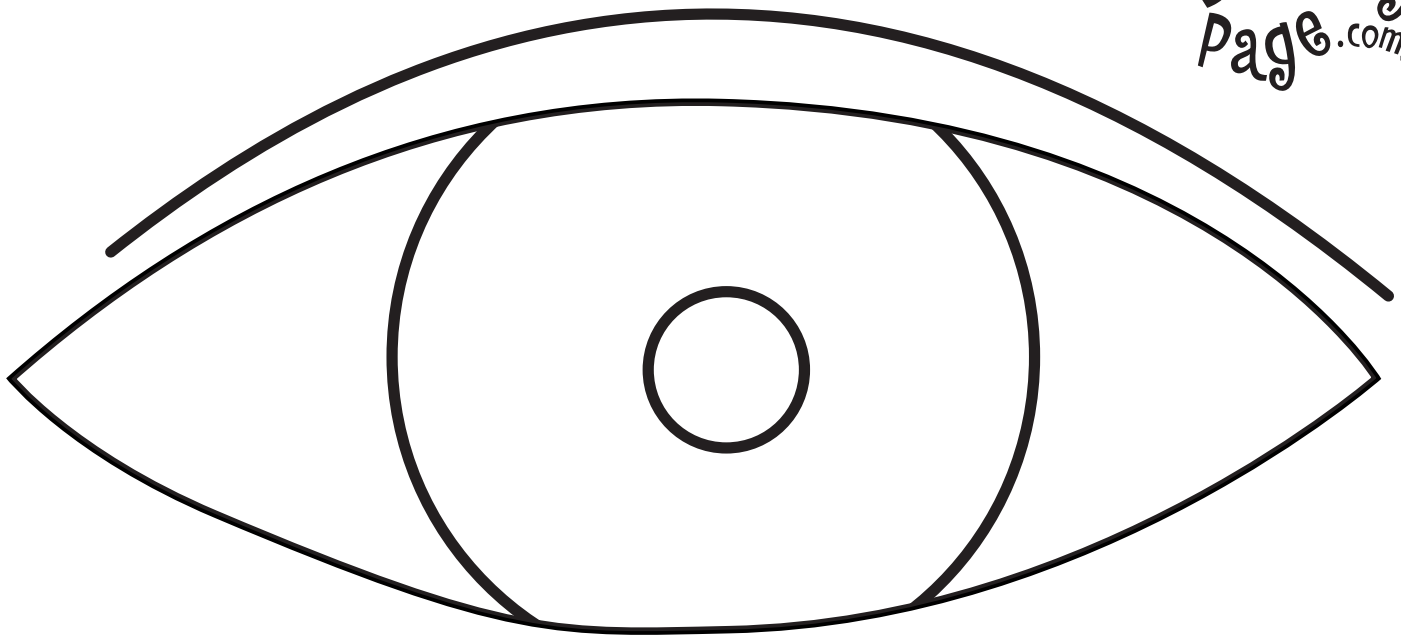


The sense of sight is the most complex of the five senses. When we see an object, we are actually seeing beams of light that are bouncing off the object. The light enters the eye through the cornea (the transparent covering) and goes through the pupil (the dark circle in the center of the eye). It then passes through the lens and is projected onto the retina. From there the information is sent to the brain, which tells us what we are seeing.

# Sense of Sight

1. Choose several objects (such as shells, leaves, or flowers). Listing only the attributes you can *see*, compare the colors, shapes, and sizes; then put the objects in order according to color, shape, and size. Graph your results.
2. A person who cannot see is said to be visually impaired. Blindfold a classmate, and then describe in words one of your objects, based *only* on what you can *see*, and without naming it.
3. After removing the blindfold, the classmate should then make a drawing of the object, based on the visual description.
4. Compare the drawing with the object. Are there some other sight words that could have been used?





## Sense of Sight

1. The colored part of the eye is called the *iris*.  
Predict, or estimate, the number of students in your class whose eyes are brown, blue, and other colors (such as hazel or green). Write your guesses on the board.
2. Copy the pattern above, one for each child.  
Have them write their name on it and color the iris the color of their own eyes.
3. Organize the colored “eyes” on the chalkboard under headings for each color to create a chart.
4. How do the results compare to the estimate?

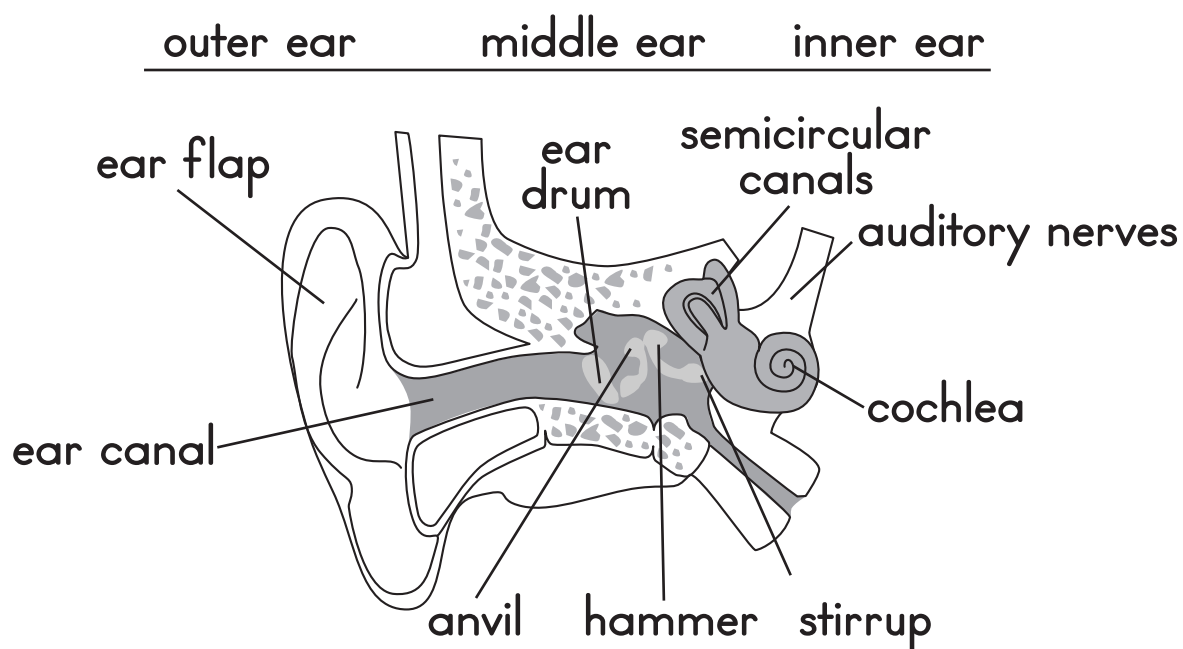
# Things that Help Us See



There are many tools that help us see things differently. Choose one of the instruments above and share with your classmates how it might make objects look different, and how you might use it. Can you think of any other instruments that help us to see differently?

# Sense of Hearing

Ears are specially designed body parts that enable us to hear. When an object makes a noise, it sends sound waves through the air. Your outer ear collects the sound waves like a funnel, then moves them into your inner ear where they vibrate against your ear drum. Deep inside your ear are the three smallest bones in your body, called the hammer, the anvil, and the stirrup. Messages are sent from deep in your inner ear through the auditory nerve to your brain, which tells you what you are hearing.



# Sense of Hearing

With a partner, walk around your classroom, school, and schoolyard and listen carefully. One student will say what they hear while the other writes it down.

1. Take turns walking blindfolded or with eyes closed; let your partner guide you.
2. Spend time sitting quietly and listening.
3. What did you learn about the world by depending on your sense of hearing?

Or, wear earplugs during normal classroom activities. Note what changed for you as the day went on. What kinds of things did you miss? How did you make up for the loss of your hearing?

Use the notes from this exercise for journal entries or poetry ideas.

# Sense of Touch

The sense of touch is everywhere in your body because skin is the major organ of the sense of touch. Areas such as fingertips are much more sensitive than others.

Gather some common objects (apple, toy, fabric, sandpaper block) and place each in a paper bag.

Take turns putting a hand in the bag, feeling the object, and then describing it, using only *touch* words. Remember that touching reveals size, shape, and texture. Write more words on the board to use later for writing poetry. Some touch words:

round	sharp	hairy	velvety
coarse	bumpy	solid	squishy



# Sense of Touch

In groups of 2 or 3, explore the classroom, school, and playground for different textures. Run your hands along walls, floors, bricks, concrete, trees, etc. with your eyes closed and concentrate on what you feel.

Then tape a sheet of soft, lightweight paper over the area and rub the paper with a soft pencil or charcoal. The image of the surface will appear! After returning to the classroom, label each rubbing with a word that describes it. More touch words:

soft	bumpy	rough	smooth
scratchy	hard	pebbly	wet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Sense of Smell

The sense of smell is very important to us, yet it is often overlooked. The part of the body that we use to smell is inside the nose; the nose also filters and moistens the air we breathe.

Your nose can tell you many things about the world around you. Smells also stay surprisingly fresh in our memories. List the smells that the following places remind you of.

zoo

lunch room

seashore

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mother's kitchen

park

carnival

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Sense of Smell

Compared to animals, humans have a very weak sense of smell. Did you know that a dog's smell cells are 100 times larger than a human's smell cells, and that dogs have a million cells per nostril? Name something you have observed about dogs and their sense of smell. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you think that a dog's sense of smell makes up for its inability to speak? How? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Good Smells/Bad Smells

Scientists say that humans can tell the difference between 4,000–10,000 smells. Make two lists: smells that you like, or that are pleasant to you; and smells that you don't like, that are unpleasant, or signal danger.

Good Smells

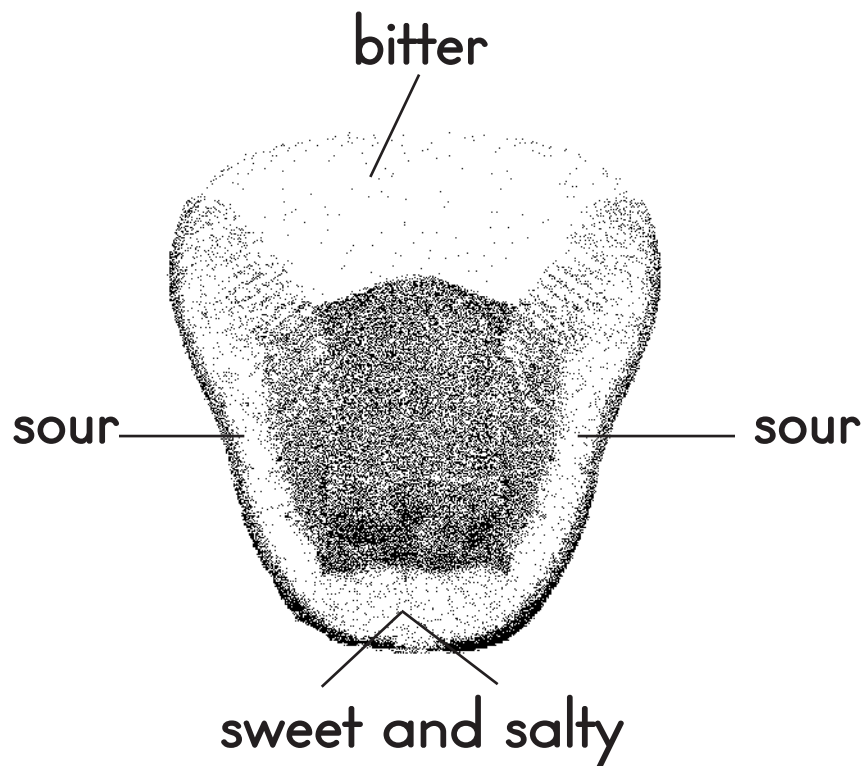
popcorn

Bad Smells

mold

# Sense of Taste

The sense of taste is controlled by thousands of tiny taste buds that cover your tongue and the roof of your mouth. When you put food in your mouth, saliva breaks it down and receptor cells in the taste buds tell your brain what you are tasting. Taste buds recognize four types of tastes: sweet, salty, sour, and bitter. Our tongue is divided into four areas, each one sensitive to one of the four tastes. The center of the tongue has very few taste buds.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Sense of Taste

Circle the correct taste for each item:

THE FIVE SENSES SHEETS • 014



sweet salty sour bitter



sweet salty sour bitter



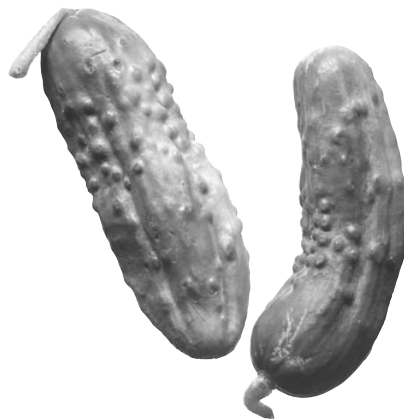
sweet salty sour bitter



sweet salty sour bitter



sweet salty sour bitter



sweet salty sour bitter

SKILL: SENSE/TASTE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Senses

Think of a fun activity that you like to do and write it here. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Now, pretend you were missing one of your senses; write it here. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how you would participate in the activity without that one sense. What would you do differently? How would you make up for the loss of that sense? Use a separate sheet if needed. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Animal Senses

Choose one amazing fact about animal senses and draw a picture about it. Use your Fact Files and Fun Sheets from Reptiles/Amphibians, Insects/Spiders, Oceans, and Zoo Animals for help.

1. Ants can sense movement through an inch of dirt.
2. Honey bees have 5,500 lenses in each eye.
3. Butterflies have taste buds in their feet.
4. Of all animals, dolphins have the best sense of hearing; they hear 14 times better than we do.
5. Fish have a “lateral” line along their bodies that senses changes in water pressure and movement.
6. Frogs have an ear on the outside of their bodies behind the eye.
7. Penguins have a flat cornea that allows for clear vision underwater.
8. Each of an ostrich’s eyes is two inches across and weighs more than its brain.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Using All Senses

Write the correct sense or senses you would use to experience the following:

alarm clock \_\_\_\_\_

flowers \_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

popping popcorn \_\_\_\_\_

television \_\_\_\_\_

doorbell \_\_\_\_\_

train \_\_\_\_\_

chocolate cake \_\_\_\_\_

sandpaper \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# The Five Senses: Adjectives

An adjective is a word that describes a noun.

Make a list of adjectives for each sense:

sight

bright

hearing

buzzing

smell

fragrant

touch

sticky

taste

sweet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Senses and Poetry

A cinquain poem has five lines. Each line contains a set number of syllables.

Example: Yellow

noisy bees buzz

nearing fragrant flowers

find sticky pollen, collecting

sweet stuff.

Line 1: two syllables

Line 2: four syllables

Line 3: six syllables

Line 4: eight syllables

Line 5: two syllables

Write a cinquain poem using one sense word in each line. Use words from Fun Sheets 9, 10, and 19.

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Use what you have learned in Insects/Spiders, Dinosaurs, Oceans, or Zoo Animals for topics and inspiration.

# Sense Review

1. A visually impaired person cannot \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. One way to protect our hearing. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The sense of \_\_\_\_\_ tells us if we are in pain.
4. If we have a cold, sometimes we cannot  
\_\_\_\_\_ our food.
5. The sense of \_\_\_\_\_ tells us dinner is ready.
6. The most complex of the five senses is \_\_\_\_\_ .
7. Each of our senses collects information and  
sends it to our \_\_\_\_\_ .
8. An animal that has a better sense of smell  
than we do is a \_\_\_\_\_ .

sight	earplugs	dog	smell
brain	touch	see	taste