

Unit of Study 2: My Five Senses

Essential Question: How do we use our senses to explore, investigate and understand the world around us?

Focus Questions:

- How do we use our sense of sight?
- How do we use our sense of hearing?
- How do we use our sense of taste?
- How do we use our sense of smell?
- How do we use our sense of touch?

Student Outcomes

Enduring understandings that the student should have by the end of the unit:

- There are five senses. They are smell, taste, touch, sight and hearing.
- We use our senses to understand our bodies, learn what they need and keep us safe.
 - We use our senses to learn about the people, places, objects and environment around us.
- We experience and interact with the world differently when our senses, such as vision or hearing, are impaired.

Literacy Activities

Invite children to use black and white crayons/pencils and write on black/white paper. Before writing or drawing encourage children to predict what happens when you use black on black. What about white? Why?

Art Activities

Provide, or ask families to bring in, various leaves from trees in the neighborhood or near their homes. Place a piece of paper over a leaf and rub the side of a crayon over the paper. Watch as the leaf appears and invite the children to consider why this happens.

Science Activities

Feely Box: Cut holes in the sides of a shoebox or other small box. Place an item inside the box and invite children to put their hands in the holes and identify the object using only their sense of touch.

Music/Movement Activities

Freeze Dance: Play different kinds of music on a radio, CD player, or computer and encourage the children to dance freely or copy movements. Pause the music at various points and encourage students to "FREEZE!" when they hear the music stop. PK.PDH.2: Uses sensory information to plan and carry out movements.

Math Activities

Sorting:

Provide containers for sorting and allow children to determine their own systems for categorization such as sorting manipulatives by color, size, shape or texture.

Cooking Activities

Play dough

Ingredients: 2 cups of flour, 1 cup salt, 1 cup water, 1 tablespoon oil

Directions: Combine flour, and salt, add water and oil. Mix and knead well. Add more flour if necessary.

You can also add food coloring to make the dough in different colors

Vocabulary:

autumn, blind, braille, crunch, deaf, dry, ears, eyes, eyesight, fall, feel, fingers, flavor, foliage, hard, hear, hearing aid, listen, loud, mouth, nose, prediction, quiet, rough, safe, savory, see, senses, sign, language, skin, smell, smooth, soft, sound, sour, surface, sweet, taste, taste buds, texture, tongue, touch, view, vision, volume, wet

District 20 Pre-K Centers