

Dear Family:

Our class is starting to learn about the senses and how we use our senses to observe. These are the main ideas.

- The senses help us notice many things in the world around us.
- Our observations are based on the five senses: seeing, hearing, touching, smelling, and tasting.
- We make inferences based on our observations.

We will also be learning science vocabulary words. Soon, we will be able to read the vocabulary words and tell what they mean.

Word Bank

observe

senses

see

hear

touch

smell

taste

Home Projects

Here are some activities that will help your child understand the main ideas. The activities are easy, fast, and fun.

Activities

- Talk with your child about what you can observe with all of the senses as you eat a piece of toast.
- Place items such as the following into a bag: cotton ball, sandpaper strip, and ball of yarn. Describe one of the objects and have your child reach into the bag and find it using the sense of touch.

Name _____ Date _____

- Cut out some magazine pictures of interesting scenes, such as a family having dinner, a gardener planting vegetables or flowers, or campers hiking in the mountains. As you look at a picture together, pretend you are there and discuss what you might see, hear, smell, taste, and touch.
- Visit an optical store with your child. Look at the lenses on display, and discuss how they can help people see better.

Suggested Reading

Ears Are For Hearing by Paul Showers. The author introduces the young reader to the amazing process of hearing. ISBN 0-690-04720-7

How Do Our Eyes See? by Carol Ballard. Simple-to-follow activities explain how the eyes work and how they provide information about the world around us. ISBN 0-8172-4736-X

You Can't Smell a Flower with Your Ear! by Joanna Cole. Concise text and clever illustrations help young readers learn about the senses. ISBN 0-448-40470-2