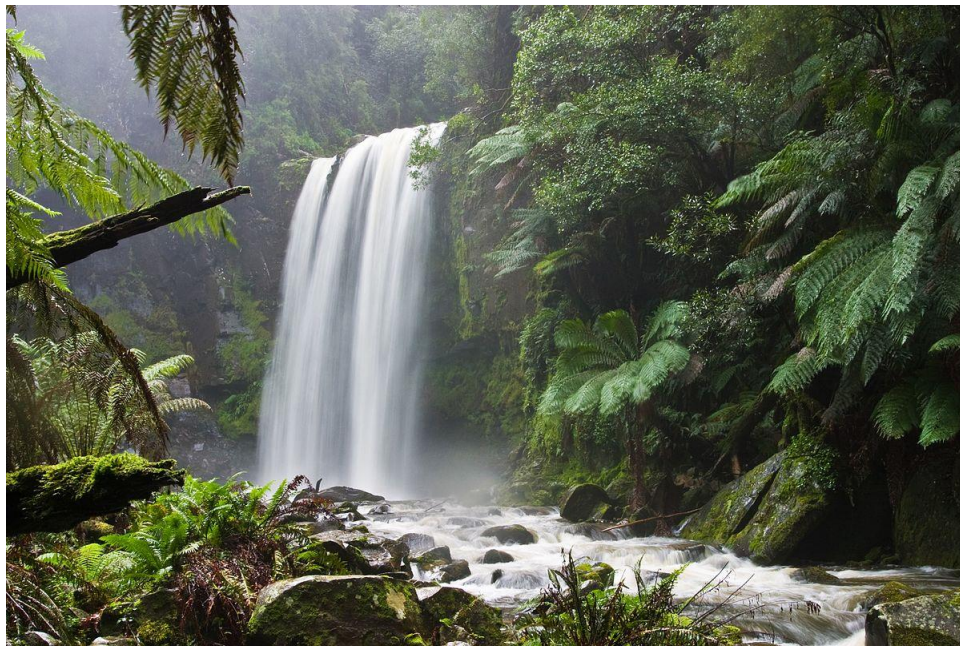


# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

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### **KINDERGARTEN FIELD EXPERIENCE LEARNING PACKAGE**

February 15, 2019  
Compiled by Karin Westland

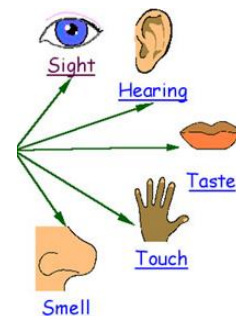
Outdoor and Ecological Learning, Powell River Board of Education

# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

### Introduction

We experience the world through our five senses. By paying attention, we heighten our ability to perceive the phenomena of the natural world, a world which humans are a part of. In this resource package, students will explore the five senses through healthy, interactive activities. Students will use their eyes, ears, nose, hands, and even mouth to explore the many sensory stimuli that make up the natural world and enrich our lives.



### How to Use this Resource

The Sensory Sensations Curriculum Package has 3 Components:

Part 1. Classroom Beginnings: Recommended for use in the classroom prior to the Sensory Sensations Experience.

Part 2. The Sensory Sensations Field Experience Curriculum: A facilitated curricular experience.

Part 3. Classroom Culminations: Recommended for use in the classroom following the related Field Experience.

### Sensory Sensations (K): Content & Curricular Competencies

Science	Properties of familiar materials.	Demonstrate curiosity and a sense of wonder about the world.  Make exploratory observations using their five senses.  Experience and interpret the local environment.  Discuss observations.
Language Arts	The relationship between reading, writing, and oral language.	Engage actively as listeners, viewers, and readers, as appropriate, to develop understanding of self, identity, and community
Physical Education	Participate in different types of physical activities, including individual and dual activities, rhythmic activities, and games.	Develop and demonstrate a variety of fundamental movement skills in a variety of physical activities and environments.  Identify opportunities to be physically active at school, at home, and in the community.

### About the Sensory Sensations Field Experience

During the Sensory Sensations Field Experience, Kindergarten students will explore nature using their five senses. Students will demonstrate mindfulness as they explore the soundscape and landscape surrounding the Outdoor Learning Center. Stories will be used throughout the day to guide experiences related to the five senses. The scientific skill of acute observation will be emphasized with each of the five senses.

# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

### Day at a Glance

9:30-9:45	Site Introduction & Welcome
9:45-10:30	Introduction with <i>Blueberries for Sal</i>
10:30-10:45	Snack
10:45-11:30	Rainbow Nature Hunt
11:30-12:00	Duplication
12:00-12:30	Bat Moth
12:30-1:00	Lunch with <i>A Listening Walk</i>
12:45-1:00	Sounds
1:00-1:20	Are you in my Pack
1:20-1:50	Owls and Crows
1:50-2:00	Departure

### Lessons in this Resource

The Sensory Sensations Field Experience Learning Package has 7 lessons:

Lesson 1: Introduction with *Blueberries for Sal*

Lesson 2: Rainbow Nature Hunt

Lesson 3: Duplication

Lesson 4: Bat Moth

Lesson 5: *A Listening Walk* and Sounds

Lesson 6: Are You in My Pack?

Lesson 7: Owls and Crows

# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

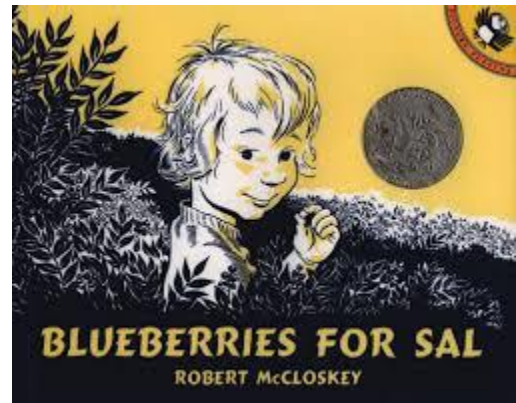
### Lesson 1: Introduction with *Blueberries for Sal*

**Purpose:** To introduce students to their five senses.

**Location:** Outside then Inside

#### Materials

- Recording of a Robin Call
- Piece of rough bark
- Soft or furry piece of animal hide
- Sweet smelling flower or cedar bark
- Something edible from nature (i.e. blueberry, salmon berry, blackberry, kale flower etc)
- Storybook— *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey
- Class set of 5 Senses Picture Cards



#### Procedure:

1. **Sight:** Explain what the sense of sight is in your own words. Let the students look around them. Explain that everything they see with their eyes is through their sense of sight. Colors, movement, light, dark, people, animals, and places are all things that they see with their sense of sight.
2. **Sound:** Ask children to be still and quiet and listen for one nature sound. Explain that they heard that noise and that they hear all noises with their ears using their sense of sound or hearing. Shouting, whispering, singing, laughing, lions roaring, frogs croaking, all animal noises, noises in the city, noises in the country, and all noises are heard through these sense of hearing.
3. **Touch:** Explain what the sense of touch is in your own words. Let them feel the soft or furry animal hide and the rough tree bark. Explain that they use their sense of touch in their skin, fingers, and all parts of their body, inside and out) to know how something feels. Pain, cold, heat, hunger, soft textures, rough textures, etc. are different things they can feel with their sense of touch.
4. **Smell:** Explain what the sense of smell is in your own words. Let them smell the flower or cedar bark. Explain that everything they smell with their nose is using their sense of smell. Flowers, perfume, skunks, and cookies in the oven are all things that they can smell.
5. **Taste:** Explain what the sense of taste is in your own words. Let them taste and eat the berry or flower. Explain that when they eat, that the taste buds on their tongues let them taste all the different flavors found in food. They taste the sweet, sour, salty, and bitterness of different things with their taste buds.



# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

### Lesson 1: Introduction with *Blueberries for Sal* (continued)

#### Procedure (continued):

**6. Inside: Assess and Reinforce Students Understanding of the Five Senses**

Hand out to each student a set of the five senses lesson plan picture handouts. Tell the class that you're going to read them a story and that as you read the story you want the children to listen and look for times when the characters use one their five senses. When they discover one of the five senses being used they should hold up the picture representing that sense. Then, read to the class the children's picture book, *Blueberries for Sal*. As you read the story, watch to see if the students display the correct five senses pictures and encourage or congratulate them as they do so.

**7. The following represent the most obvious scenes in the story where the one of the five senses are used and which pictures are provided for in the lesson plan handout:**

- a. Sal sees her mother picking blueberries (sight)
  - b. Sal eats blueberries from her mother's pail (taste)
  - c. Little Bear hears rustling in the bushes (hearing)
  - d. Little Bear grazes on blueberries (taste)
  - e. Sal hear rustling in the bushes (hearing)
  - f. *Kerplink, Kerplank, Kerplunk* (hearing)
  - g. Little Sal picks blueberries (touch)
- 8. When the story is over, ask the students which of the five senses was not included in the story (smell).**



# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

### Lesson 2: Rainbow Nature Hunt

**Purpose:** A fun, sensory engaging way to promote attention to visual detail and colour.

**Location:** Outside

**Time:** 15 Minutes

#### Materials

- Clipboards
- Copies of the Rainbow in Nature Worksheet (See below)
- Double sided tape
- Optional: Gold Chocolate Coins



#### Procedure

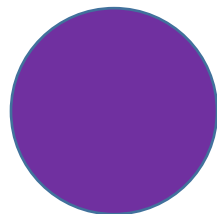
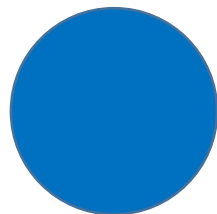
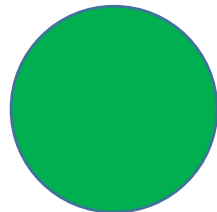
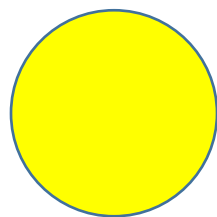
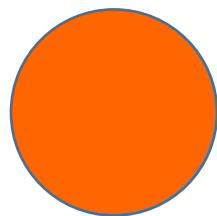
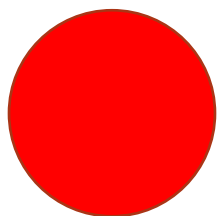
1. Invite students to identify how many different colours and shades of colours they can see in front of them without moving from where they are sitting.
2. Ask children what the colours of the rainbow are.
3. Tell the children, they are going to be searching for a rainbow.
4. Divide the children into small groups and give each group a clipboard with a copy of the Rainbow in Nature worksheet already fixed with strips of double sided tape beside each colour circle.
5. Assign an adult to each group.
6. Give each group 30 minutes to roam the site in search of the rainbow.

#### Closing

When groups reconvene, have them share their rainbows with the class.

Optional: Groups that find a whole rainbow can be given a gold coin (i.e. pot of gold).

## Rainbow Nature Hunt





# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

### Lesson 3: Duplication

**Purpose:** This game helps get students interested in rocks, plants, and animals.

**Location:** Outside

**Time:** 20 Minutes

#### Materials

- 10 common / found natural objects
- 2 Handkerchiefs



#### Procedure

1. Lay the objects out on a handkerchief and cover them with another handkerchief. Invite the children to gather around in a seated circle.
2. Call the children close around you and tell them, "Under this cloth are 10 natural objects that you'll be able to find nearby. I will lift the handkerchief for 25 seconds so you can take a good look and try to remember everything you see."
3. After looking at the objects, the children spread out and collect identical items, keeping their findings to themselves. After five minutes searching, call them back.

**Closing:** Dramatically pull the objects from under the handkerchief, one at a time, telling interesting stories about each one. As each object is presented, ask the children if they found one just like it. Celebrate each object found.

**Optional:** Repeat the game a few times and notice a strengthening effect on student's concentration and memory.



# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

### Lesson 4: Bat and Moth

**Purpose:** Bat and Moth is a great way to hone students' listening and concentration skills. It also teaches scientific concepts like adaptation, predator-prey, and echolocation.

**Location:** Outside

#### Materials

- 1 Blindfold

#### Procedure

1. Have the group form a circle 3 meters across.
2. Choose a member of the circle to be the bat, then have the bat come to the center to be blindfolded.
3. Designate 3-5 other children as moths and ask them to come to the center of the circle. Explain that the bat tries to catch the moth.
4. Explain that whenever the bat calls out "BAT!" the moths call back "MOTH!" Tell the moths: "Every time you hear the bat call out "BAT!" it's his or her sonar signal hitting you. He or she sends it out to see if there's anything out there. His cry bounces off you and returns to him like a sonar signal. The return signal is the word "MOTH!" that you shout. Now the bat knows that moths are near—and he or she is ready to eat!"
5. The bat tracks down and gently tags the moths by listening carefully to the call and response. (Encourage the bat to tag around waist high). Once a moth has been gently tagged, they can return to the outer circle.
6. **Closing:** After all the moths have been caught, ask if anyone noticed any characteristic that any of the moths had that helped them to survive. (i.e. fast, stooped low, had a quiet voice, etc...)

*Note: It takes concentration, confidence, and the ability to move well to be a successful bat. Try to choose a player with these characteristics so that the game will be more dynamic and fun. If it's necessary to help the bat out, make the circle smaller. Also, advise those in the outer circle to stand quietly watching to see why some moths live longer than others.*



# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

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## The Five Senses in Nature

### Lesson 5: Sounds

**Purpose:** To cultivate auditory attentiveness in nature.

**Location:** Inside and Outside

**Time:** 45 Minutes (including lunch)

#### Materials

- 1 Copy of *The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers

#### Procedure

1. Read aloud *The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers.
2. Take children outside and find a nice, outdoor location for students to sit or lie down with both fists held up in the air. The best locations are fringe environments: just on the edge of the forest and a meadow or other ecosystem.
3. Every time someone hears a new birdsong he or she lifts one finger.
4. For fun, students can see if they can count to ten without hearing a birdsong.

#### Closing:

Vary the game by listening for general animal sounds, or for any sounds at all like wind in the grass, falling leaves, rushing water, etc. See if students can follow the wind as it moves through the trees

# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

### Lesson 6: Are You in My Pack?

**Overview:** During this activity, students will learn about how some animals use their sense of smell to identify who is in their pack or family.

**Purpose:** To help students engage with their sense of smell in a fun and meaningful way.

**Location:** Outside/Inside

#### Materials

2 bottles of different essential oil

#### Procedure:

1. Invite students to sit in a circle. Discuss animals that have a strong sense of smell. Make sure to mention dogs and wolves.
2. Tell the students that you are going to come around and place a small amount of a scented oil on their sleeve. Invite students to close their eyes. Be clear with the students that you will indicate when they can open their eyes.
3. Go around to all the children and put a small amount of essential oil on their jacket sleeve.
4. Once everyone has been scented, invite students to open their eyes. Have them smell the scent and describe to a friend what it smells like.
5. Tell students that they are now going to act like wolves and try to identify who is in their pack by finding all the people wearing the same smell. When they have found someone wearing the same smell, they can stay together and then try to find another person who also has the same smell.

*Note: Once students find another person with the same smell, they are to travel as a pack, finding those also wearing the same smell. Each group should eventually become the same size.*



# Sensory Sensations Kindergarten

## The Five Senses in Nature

### Lesson 7: Owls and Crows

**Overview:** This is a great activity to review new experiences and newly learned concepts.

**Purpose:** To help students reconnect with what they've learned

**Location:** Outside

#### Materials

- Rope

#### Procedure:

1. Using the two packs from created during the previous activity, divide the group into two equal teams, the Owls and the Crows.
2. Have the teams line up facing each other about four feet apart. Place a rope between them.
3. About 5 meters behind each team, either place another long rope or use a natural feature to delineate the safe zone.
4. The leader makes a statement aloud and if the statement is true, the Owls chase the Crows, trying to gently tag them before they reach their safe zone. If the statement is false, the Crows chase the Owls all the way to their safe zone. Anyone tagged must join the other team.

*Teacher Note: Before you begin, practice by giving a few easy statements and asking the players to point to where they'll run. Since the players will be continually changing sides, it is helpful to mark clearly the way to run if the statement is true or false. With smaller children, it may be helpful to point in the direction they are supposed to run.*

### Professional Credit

Lessons contained as part of the Sensory Sensations Workshop are a combination of original and adapted lessons from the following sources:

- Original Contributions: Karin Westland, Outdoor Curricular Teacher, Powell River School District
- *Teaching Children to Love Nature* by Joseph Cornell
- Wild BC: Project Wild