



Dunwoody Nature Center

Kindergarten Nature Activities

Nature Makes Sense!

Color & Texture Hike

Before heading outside, gather a few colorful materials such as leftover paint swatches or various colors of construction paper. Then use those materials to find matches in nature! You may think that all leaves are “green,” but can you find different shades of green to match your paint swatches or other colored paper? What about different shades of brown, gray or blue? Remember to look up, down and all around. See how many different colors & matches you can find!



Also along your hike, bring some white paper and crayons or colored pencils to “collect” different textures. Make some tree, leaf, or rock rubbings as you come across smooth, rough, bumpy or soft surfaces. Take a few notes in a nature journal or share with your sibling, parent or guardian how different natural objects feel to you. Try to use as many different adjectives as possible to give detailed descriptions. Some examples of descriptive adjectives you may use are:

Smooth, Rough, Firm, Soft, Silky, Jagged, Hard, Squishy, Cool/Cold, Warm/Hot, Polished, Bumpy, Fuzzy, Spiky, Pokey, Scraggly, Hairy, Fluffy, Slimy

Getting Started Your 5 Senses

Can you name your five senses?

1. **Listening**
2. **Sight**
3. **Touch**
4. **Taste**
5. **Smell**

By using all your senses, you can learn to observe in many different ways!



Sorting Activity

Use your senses of touch and sight to sort objects into categories. Gather a variety of items that you have in your home such as buttons, small toys like Legos, cotton balls, crayons, dry beans, etc. Mix them all up together in one pile or bowl.



Now, sort the items into categories based on texture, color, shape or type of item. You may choose to separate the items differently than your parent or sibling! See how many different categories you can make. I decided to sort mine based on color.



Sit Spot Activity

Enjoy nature from your very own "Spot"

Follow this link to a fun family activity you can do this week! Spend time outside in your own quiet Sit Spot to listen, look and feel the natural world around you.

<https://www.green-acres.org/sit-spot-activity/>

Animal Senses

Animals use their senses to find food and shelter in their habitats. Here are a few examples of animals & how they use their senses! Can you think of others?

Eastern cottontail rabbits use their long ears to listen for sounds of danger. Try making rabbit ears by cupping your hands around your ears and see if the sounds around you become a little louder.



Did you know your pet cat and an opossum have something in common? They both use their sensitive whiskers to feel around – using their sense of touch to find their way, especially in the dark!



What about “taste?”

Here are some links to some fun taste test activities you can try!

Taste Test Activity



<http://www.learnplayimagine.com/2012/09/exploring-sense-of-taste.html>

Exploring your 5 Senses with Fruits & Vegetables



<http://www.learnplayimagine.com/2012/09/exploring-our-5-senses-with-fruits-and.html>