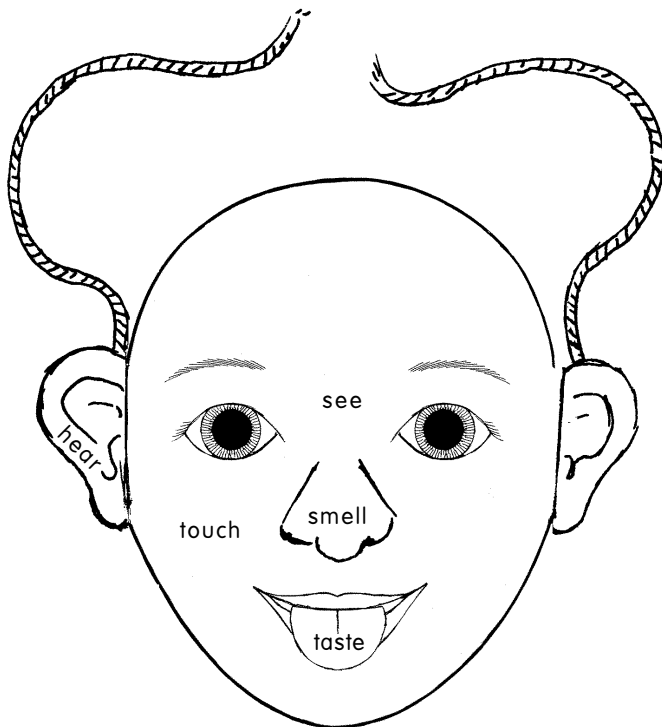




Five-Senses Mask

Students make a mask they can use to learn about their five senses.



Materials

- ☀ copies of reproducible pages 52 and 53 (for each student)
- ☀ two 12-inch pieces of yarn (for each student)
- ☀ scissors
- ☀ one-hole punch
- ☀ tape
- ☀ colored pencils, crayons, or markers (optional)

Skills

observing
identifying
inferring

Building Vocabulary



ears
eyes
body
feel
hear
nose
see
smell
taste
touch

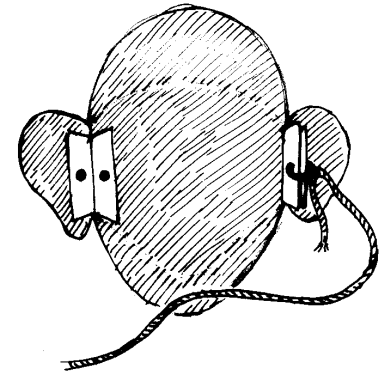
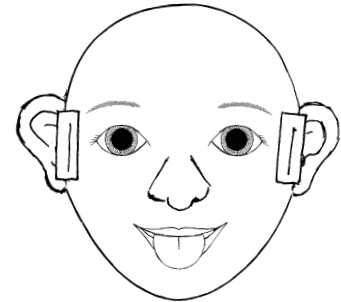
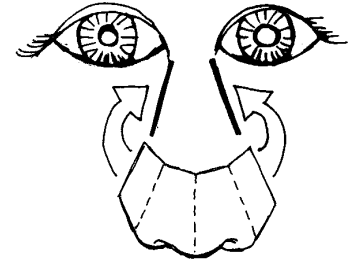


Sing Along and Learn
by Ken Sheldon
(Scholastic, 1997).
Twelve learning songs
with reproducible
activity pages teach
primary skills and
concepts, including
the five senses.

Making the Wearable

Guide children in following these directions:

1. Color the mask, if desired.
2. Cut out the mask, nose, and ears.
3. Cut a hole in each iris for pupils.
4. Cut along the lines where the nose will be, making slits for the nose tabs to pass through.
5. Fold the nose down the middle and along the tabs. Insert the tabs into the nose slits on the mask. Turn the mask over and tape the tabs in place.
6. Fold the ears along the tabs. Tape both ears to the front of the mask to secure their position.
7. Locate the dots printed on the tabs for both the ears and mask. At each dot, punch holes for the yarn to pass through.
8. Tie both pieces of yarn to the mask at the holes.
9. Have each student hold the mask on his or her face. Tie the yarn into a bow to secure.



Teaching With the Wearable

1. Invite students to wear their masks. Tell children that the masks they've made will help them learn about their five senses.
2. Discuss how different parts of our bodies help us make observations about our environment. Then, have children point out the parts of their body that help them see, hear, smell, and taste things in the world around them (eyes, ears, nose, tongue). For example, say: *Point to the part on your face that helps you see. Now, point to the part of your body that helps you hear.*



3. Invite students to talk about the sense of touch. Ask: *What happens when you touch something? What do you learn about it?* Students may say, for example, that they can feel temperature, texture, and moisture.
4. Although we may associate touch with fingers, invite children wearing the Senses Mask to explore the sense of touch using the skin on their faces. For a hands-on experience, ask students to lightly touch their own cheeks with a crayon. Encourage children to discuss how it feels on their skin. For example, students may say the crayon feels cool, waxy, and dry.

●●● Extending Learning ●●●

Mystery Box

Play a favorite classroom game like Mystery Box, a sensory game that invites students to use the sense of touch to describe an object they can't see, hear, or smell. But this time, take Mystery Box a step further. After the student whose turn it is identifies the object, ask the child to use his or her other senses to describe the object. (For safety and hygiene reasons, don't have children taste objects.)

To make a Mystery Box, cut an old sock off at the ankle. Staple or glue it over the opening on an empty top-dispensing tissue box. (Students will need to place their hands into the tube of the sock to reach into the box, so secure the sock well.) Then, gather small objects that students may know the feel of, for instance building blocks, dollhouse furniture, pencils, and leaves. Be sure to include objects in a variety of shapes and textures.

When the class is ready to play, have students put on their masks. Then, model what you expect the students to do. Reach into the box and grasp an object. Tell them you're thinking about what the object could be and some words that might describe it. If the object is a leaf, you might say: *It feels smooth and papery. It feels like something in my mother's garden, so I'm going to guess that this object is a leaf. Pull the leaf out and show it.* Then say: *My eyes help me see that this leaf is yellow and orange. My ears help me hear a quiet sound when I rub its surface. My nose helps me remember that this leaf smells like the woods after a rain.* Talking through the observation process in this way will help children think about the senses they use every day to identify objects in their world.

Try This!

Have your students put on their masks. Tell them that when they wear their masks, their senses are keener. Their ears can hear even the tiniest of sounds! Ask children to listen to the sounds in the classroom and raise one hand if they hear something they want their classmates to notice. For example, a child may hear a bird outside the window or a student's footsteps receding down the hall. Encourage children to be as quiet as caterpillars (or butterflies) as they listen to the quiet.

