



Team Work (🧠 A Brain Facts Story)
(K – 5-6 yrs.)
Experiment: Come to Your Senses



STORY CONNECTION-SLIDE 7 (Time varies based on group size and variation chosen)

Your brain does a lot more than just help you move (slide 6). Your hands let you **feel** things. Your eyes let you **see** things. Your mouth lets you **taste** things. Your nose helps you **smell** things. And your ears let you **hear** things. These are called our five senses.

Materials needed for Variation #1:

- Small boxes or bags (brown paper lunch bags) that student(s) cannot see through
- A plastic spoon or something that you can use to safely give the student(s) food to taste
- A variety of items related to each of the five senses (Suggested items listed below but can use what is on hand and convenient.)
 - Feel-rock, cotton, sandpaper
 - See-magnifying glass, old eyeglasses, flashlight (use objects that relate to seeing)
 - Taste- Fruit chews, Goldfish crackers, cheerios, etc. ****Be Aware of Student Allergies.****
 - Smell-orange slices, popped popcorn, various oil extracts or perfume on cotton balls
 - Hear-watch/clock with moving second hand or you can use things that can be heard when shaken – examples, bell, coins, small rocks or beads. You will want to put these items in a plastic container, so the bag does not break.

Preparation for Variation #1:

- You will be dividing student(s) into groups based on the number of helpers/adults are assisting, so you will need preparing 5 sense boxes/bags for each group.
- Prior to this experiment, prepare the senses boxes or bags by putting **one** item into each bag – except for the taste bag. Label each box or bag with the sense that goes with the items that will be placed into it. (Feel, See, Smell, Hear).
- For the taste bag, put the items the children will be tasting in a bag. The helper/adult will be “serving” this to the student(s) by using a plastic spoon to place it on their hand (Children will be told to close their eyes.)

Instructions for Variation #1: (Approx Time: 25-30 mins)

1. Describe to the student(s) that they will be doing an experiment – so they will be being “scientists”. Tell the student(s) that they will be using different senses to “tell” the brain what is in the bags or boxes.
2. Tell the student(s) that you will be passing around a bag and based on the “sense” that you want them you use, they will either be feeling, seeing, smelling, tasting or hearing something.

3. Tell the student(s) not to say anything about what they think are in the bags until everyone has had a chance to be a scientist.
4. Pass around a bag telling the student(s) what senses you want them to use. Remind them not to say anything until the end of the experiment.
5. For the Feel box/bag, student(s) will reach into the bag and touch the items without looking. Once everyone has had a chance to touch the items, they will then share ideas as to what they think they touched. Ask the student(s) how they knew what they were feeling?
6. For the See box/bag, student(s) look into the bag to “see” what is in there. Talk about how this item are related to seeing and sight. Ask the student(s) how they knew what they were seeing?
7. For the Taste box/bag, student(s) should close their eyes and be given one of the food items to eat without seeing what it is. Ask the student(s) how they knew what they were eating?
8. For the Smell box/bag, student(s) should close their eyes and smell what is in the bag. Ask the student(s) how they knew what they were smelling?
9. For the Hear box/bag, student(s) should close their eyes and put their ear or then should be told to reach into the bag and shake the container inside. Ask the student(s) how they knew what they were hearing?

Materials needed for Variation #2

- Paper
- Pencils

Instructions for Variation #2 (Approx Time: 10-15 mins)

1. Tell student(s) to imagine they are going somewhere. This can be a baseball game, the beach, the music room, the cafeteria, their house, the movie theatre, the park, etc. Be sure to pick a place that all the student(s) would have been to.
2. Have them write down or draw all the things they would feel, see, taste, smell, and hear at this place.
3. For each of the senses, let a few student(s) share their ideas with the group before moving on to a new location.