

M

a

k

i

n

g

s

e

n

s

e



Student Activity Guide

Welcome to The Hudson Gardens! As you explore The Gardens today, your five senses will be your most important tools. Everything else you will need is in your **Explorers Pack**.

Begin your journey in the Welcome Garden. Sit down and as a group, talk about the five senses. Can you name them? They are **smell, sight, taste, hearing** and **touch**.

Each sense has a different job, but they work best when used together. Our senses help us collect information about the world we live in. In fact, all of the knowledge we have comes from our senses— they tell us what things are, how many there are, if things are changing, and warn us of danger.

Test your senses by finding these things in the Welcome Garden:

- Something that feels rough
- Something that would not be good to taste
- One sound that is made by nature, and one sound that is made by people
- Something with three colors
- Something that smells like a Christmas tree

Using your senses probably made it easy to find those objects. To learn more, pull out the **Sense Cards** from your **Explorers Pack** and read **Card #1**.

M

Using Sight: Color Hunt

a

In order to put your sense of sight to work, you'll need the **color paddle** from your **Explorers Pack**. As a group, look around the Rose Garden area to find examples of plants, leaves, flowers that match each of the colors on the color paddle. Look for one color at a time and try and find as many objects as possible for each one. Then answer these questions:

k

i

1. Which colors were the easiest to find?

n

2. Which colors were the hardest to find?

g

BONUS ACTIVITY:

Combine any two colors on the color paddle (stack one color on top of another to combine them) and then try to find that color in the Rose Garden.

s

e

n

s

e



When you are ready to move on, read **Sense Card #2**

M

Using Smell: Scent Search

a

Did you know that many of the smells we enjoy in everyday life come from plants? One of the most special places to test our sense of smell is the Chocolate Garden!

k

To test your sense of smell, you'll need to do the following:

i

1. Count how many plants there are that **smell like chocolate**.



n

2. Which plant has the best chocolate smell?

g

3. Remember that our sense of smell is very much connected to our memories. Share with the group what the smells in this Garden remind you of.

s



4. There is a plant growing near this garden that smells like *root beer*! Can you find it? (If you are having trouble, look for the plant that is labeled *Double Bubble Mint Hyssop*).

e

n

Now talk with your group about what other senses might be good to use when exploring the Chocolate Garden. Remember not to taste any of the plants because even though they smell yummy, none of the plants taste like chocolate and they are not safe for people to eat.

s

e

When you are ready to move on, read **Sense Card #3**

Making Sense 3

M

Using Touch: Mystery Bags

a

In this activity, you will use your sense of touch instead of your eyes to identify familiar objects from The Gardens.

k

Sit with your group at one of the picnic tables, facing each other. You'll need the four **Mystery Bags** from your **Explorers Pack**. Be careful not to peek inside the bags.

i

1. Pull out **Mystery Bag #1**. Pass the bag around to each person in the group. Let everyone feel the mystery object inside and use their sense of touch to guess what it is. Don't say any guesses out loud!



n

2. After everyone has had a chance to feel what's inside the **Mystery Bag**, use these *feeling words* to describe how the object felt. **Rough, Smooth, Soft, Hard, Wet, Dry, Cool, Warm, or Heavy, Light.** After everyone has described the object, share your guesses.

g

s

3. After everyone has made a guess, the adult in your group can pull the mystery object out of the bag to reveal what it is. How many people guessed right?

e

n

6. Repeat this process for each mystery bag. Do people in your group have a good sense of touch?

s

e

When you are ready to move on, read **Sense Card #4**

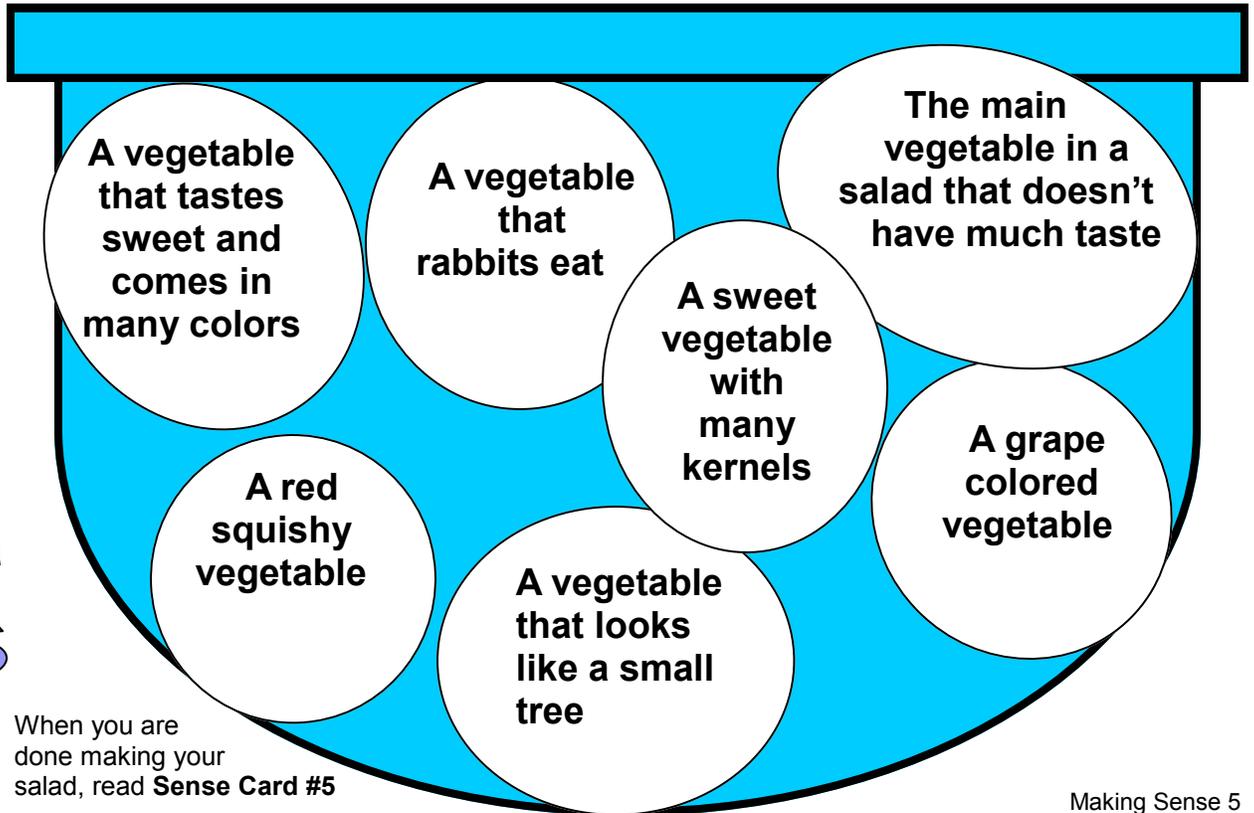
Making Sense 4

M
a
k
i
n
g
s
e
n
s
e

Using Taste: Tasty Salad

For this activity, use your imaginary sense of taste to fill a salad bowl with ingredients for a yummy salad.

1. Get the **vegetables and salad bowl** out of your **Explorers Pack**
2. Read the vegetable descriptions in the salad bowl below.
3. Match the plastic **vegetables** to the descriptions below then place the **vegetable** into the salad bowl. Allow everyone in your group to take a turn - you may need to work in partners.
4. Now your salad is complete! The vegetables in your salad bowl are growing somewhere in the Vegetable Garden. See if you can them!



When you are done making your salad, read **Sense Card #5**

M

Using Hearing: Match that Rattle

a

For this activity, you will need to use your ears to match the sounds of three objects that can be found in the Water Garden. You'll need the **colored containers** from your **Explorers Pack**.

k

Your job, as a group, is to shake each container and listen to the sound it makes. After listening carefully, match the containers whose sounds are the same. There are three matching pairs.

i

After you are done finding the matching pairs, turn the containers over (**please do not take the lids off**). The correct pairs are marked with matching stickers on the bottom of the containers.

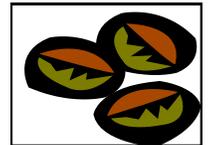
n

g

When you are done matching the pairs, try and guess which objects are in the containers by answering these questions:

s

Which two containers are filled with big seeds that come from the plants that grow in the water?



e

Which two containers are filled with rocks from the bottom of the pond?



n

Which two containers are filled with tiny seeds that come from flowers growing around the pond?



s

To check your guesses, turn this page upside down and read the answers.

e

Answers: green stickers = rocks from the bottom of the pond; blue stickers = tiny flower seeds; red stickers = big water plant seeds.

When you are ready to move on, turn to page 7 in the Student Activity Guide.

M
a
k
i
n
g
s
e
n
s
e

Using All Five Senses

After you are done playing **Match that Rattle**, go find a nice place to sit in the grass as a group (try looking in the **Amphitheater**). As a group, discuss what you learned today about the five senses. Can you think of one new thing you learned about each sense?

**Now you have completed your journey of the five senses!
Be sure and use all of your senses today as you tour the rest of The Hudson Gardens!**

