TOUCH

DISCOVERING OUR WORLD
THROUGH HAPTIC & NATURAL TOUCH

1

MYSTERY BOX

Rediscovering the sense of touch to learn about why textures are important in nature.

"(With the sense of touch) you pay closer attention to things when you can't see them."

RESOURCES

- Cardboard box with hole (see image)
- Natural objects with a variety of textures e.g. leaves, bark, moss, flower, soil
- Paper and pencils for notes.
- Camera

LOCATION

Outdoors	Classroom	Home	Other
☐	☑	☐	☐



STEPS

Working in groups of three or four:

1. **Reach In:** Without looking, ask students to place their hand inside the box and carefully feel the hidden object.
2. **Explore the Texture:** Invite them to describe how it feels. (Prompt: Does the texture remind you of anything?) Students could write down as many describing words as they can. [Prompt: Is it rough, smooth, bumpy, spiky, or something else?]
3. **Think About Nature:** Ask students why might this texture be useful? [Could it help plants and animals survive, protect, attract, or something else?]
4. **Make a Prediction:** Students could consider what they think the object might be. Could they explain which textures gave them that idea?
5. **Reveal and Reflect:** They can now look at the object. What surprised them, and what did they learn about the importance of texture in nature? Do they think the sense of touch is useful for learning about nature?

FOLLOW ON...

REVIEW
What surprised you and your students?

REDISCOVER
What textures did students notice?

RESPOND
How might you adapt this activity next time?

Activity 5: Touching the world beneath our feet
Activity 8: Senses shape our spaces
See our full list of activities here...



https://sensescience.org/teacher-resources/

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