

Walk for the Senses

Grades: Elementary (Grades 3-5)

Key Words and Definitions

SENSE	One of the five ways in which the human body experiences the world; smell, sight, hearing, taste and touch
TEXTURE	The way something feels to the sense of touch
OBSERVATION	The act of careful looking, listening, smelling etc.

Pre-Field Trip Activity: Listening Scavenger Hunt

One 20-minute session; pre-visit

Learning Objective

Students will explore the soundscape of their community through practicing active, close listening.

Materials

- Pencils
- Markers
- Grid Lesson Extensions

Procedure

1. Print a grid with three columns and four rows for each student. Tell students that in a moment you will be taking a walk to do some careful listening, which we will also be doing during our field trip at Wave Hill.
2. Ask students to fill the sheet with predictions for sounds that they may encounter on the walk. Then lead a walk through your school or outdoors.
3. As they walk, students will mark which sounds they heard that were recorded on their prediction sheets. If sights are too distracting, have your students stand still and close their eyes so that they can focus on the sounds around them.
4. Once back in the classroom, ask: Did you hear what you predicted you would hear? Were there any surprising or strange sounds? Do we expect to hear similar or different sounds while on our field trip at Wave Hill?

Sources

 [“How Your Ears Work.” YouTube, KidsHealth.org, 22 Aug. 2013.](#)

Post-Field Trip Activity: Observational Drawing

One 20-minute session; post-visit

Learning Objective

Students will sharpen their observational skills by drawing a detailed sketch of a nature object (rocks, leaves, feathers).

Materials

- Paper
- Nature objects (rocks, leaves, feathers, etc.)
- Pencils
- Crayons and/or markers

Procedure

1. In the Pre-Field Trip activity, students made auditory observations. For this activity, we will be recording visual observations. Both sight and hearing are important senses when practicing science and art—artists and scientists frequently rely on both in order to make observations relevant to their work.
2. Tell students that they will have the opportunity to become scientists and artists by making observational drawings of things found in nature.
3. Give students a chance to explore the nature objects you have assembled. Do they recognize anything they might have also seen during the field trip at Wave Hill?
4. Using a pencil and paper, encourage students to choose an object that interests them and try to draw it with as much detail as possible. Instruct students to focus on textures and details they find interesting.
5. For an added challenge, students can create their observational drawings using a single continuous line.
6. After drawing, students can add more detail to their drawings using colored markers or crayons.
7. Students can then share their observational drawings with the rest of the class. Alternatively, you can facilitate a gallery walk, where students leave their drawings on their desks and walk around the room to look at their classmates' work. Lead a discussion to consider which objects and artworks stand out to students and why.

Sources

 [The Five Senses | The Dr. Binocs Show | Educational Videos For Kids - YouTube](#)



Scan for a page with all links