



Examples of Explanatory Texts

For Preview Only



Our Senses



How do we see?

You use your eyes to see what's happening around you. You see things because light bounces off them and goes into your eyes. Your eyes send messages to your brain, which can turn them into the pictures you can see.





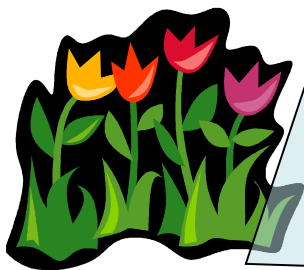
The Steps to Seeing

1) The light bounces off the object.



2) The light goes in through your pupil (the black dot in the middle of your eye).

3) After going through the lens, an upside down picture lands on your retina. Special cells turn the picture into a message.



4) Nerves take the message to your brain. Your brain turns the picture the right way up and recognises the object.



How do we taste?

Imagine if pizza and chocolate tasted the same. Or if you couldn't smell your dinner cooking. Without taste and smell, you wouldn't be able to enjoy your food.





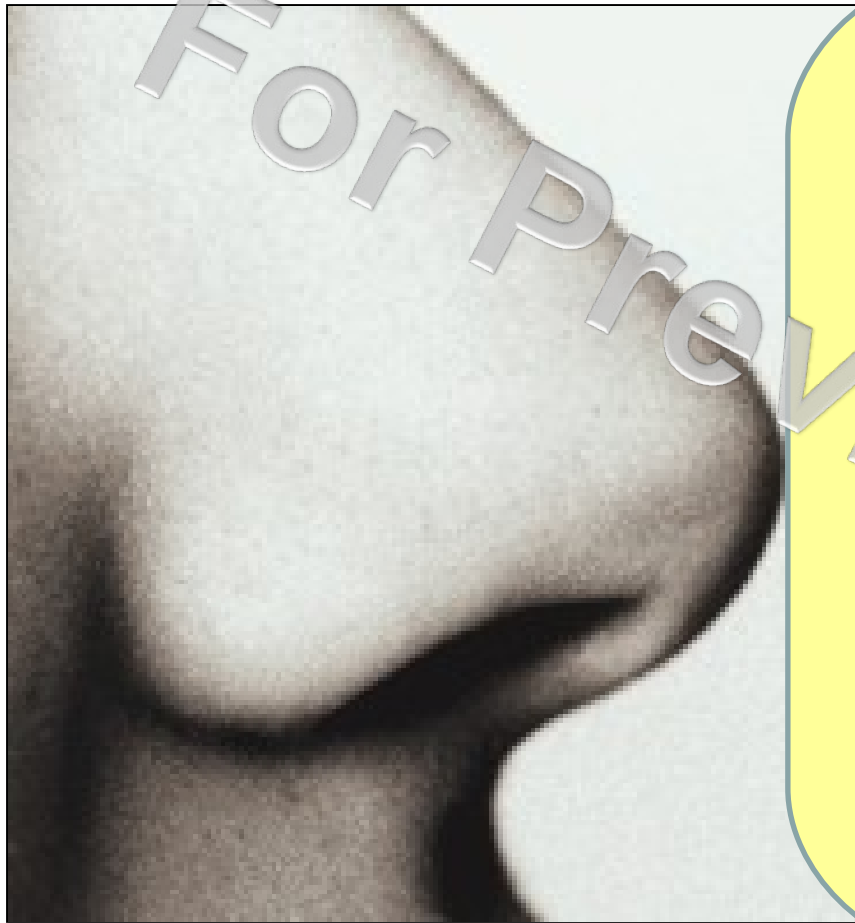
How do we taste?



On your tongue, you have almost 10,000 tiny taste buds.

They are made of special cells that can detect a few simple tastes. They tell your brain if your food is sweet, sour, salty or bitter.

Senses: Tasting and Smelling



Smells are tiny particles that float off things and go up your nose. High inside your nose, there's a patch of tiny, hair-like nerve cells. They sense the smell particles and send a message to your brain.



Senses: Touch

When you touch something, your skin tells you what it feels like. Try running your fingers over the carpet. Does it feel rough or smooth? There are millions of tiny nerve endings, or sensors, in your skin.

They can feel heat, cold, pressure, roughness, smoothness and pain. They send touch messages zooming along nerve cells to your brain. Your brain then recognises the signals as objects.



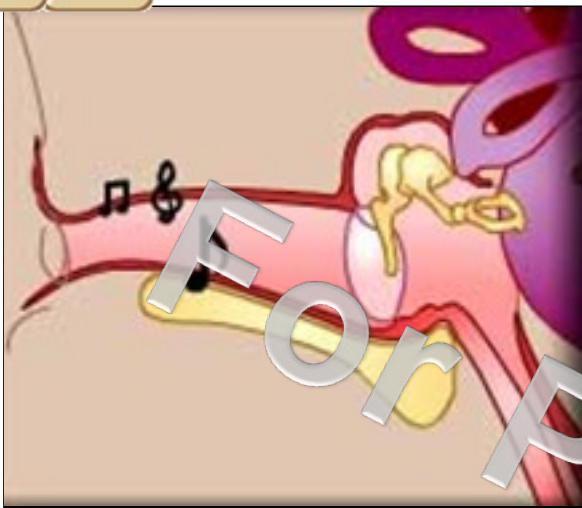


How do we Hear?

Hearing is one of our five senses. We use our ears to listen to sounds. But how do our ears actually work? Let's find out...

When something makes a noise, it makes sound waves (vibrations). These sound waves travel through the air. The sound waves then go into your ear.





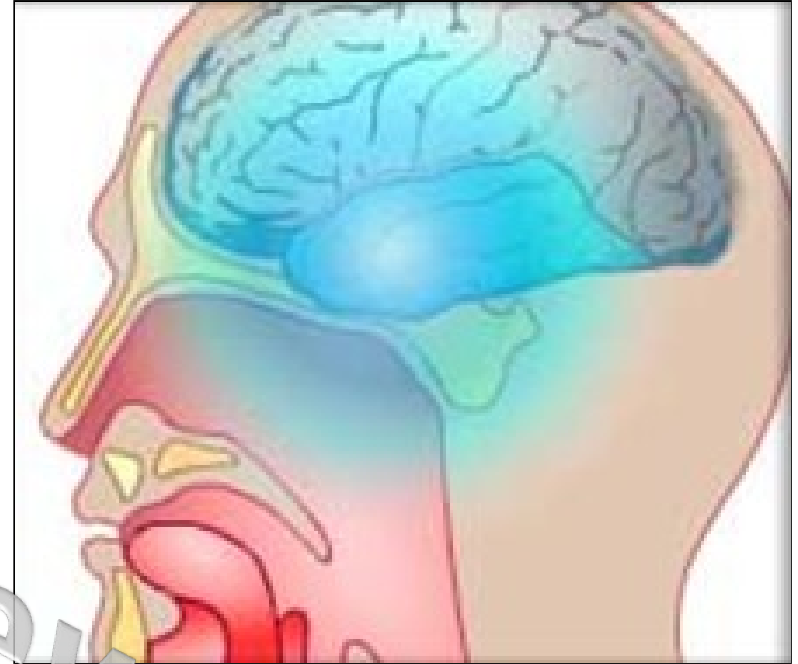
Then the sound travels along your ear canal inside your ear. Then the sound waves make your ear drum vibrate. This also makes tiny bones inside the ear vibrate.

These tiny bones pass the vibrations into your inner ear. The vibrations then trigger some nerve cells inside your ear. These nerve cells then pass the message to your brain.





One part of your brain can recognize these sounds. It tells you what the noise is, and where the noise is coming from. If it is talking, then you can listen to it.



If you are curious about the sound, then your brain will tell you which direction the sound came from. I bet you will look that way!