

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
KINDERGARTEN**

**Title of Lesson:** Experience your senses

**Theme:** Physical Science

**Unit Number:** 1      **Unit Title:** Physical Properties of Matter

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):**

SKP1

**Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):**

**Habits of Mind**

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

**Content (key terms and topics covered):**

Five senses (taste, smell, touch, sound, sight)

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract (limit 100 characters):** This lesson allows the students to isolate each sense and use adjectives to describe things.

**Details:** Pour enough M&Ms into the bag for each child to have a few. Do the same with crackers and grapefruit in separate bags (might want to put grapefruit into a container and put the container in the paper bag). Put each item for touch into a separate bag (stuffed animal, sandpaper, pinecone, and cotton balls). For the sense of smell, soak a few cotton balls with vinegar and line the bottom of the paper bag with aluminum before putting the soaked cotton balls in the bag. Do the same thing with the perfume. For the pepper and cinnamon, wet the cotton balls with water and then dab them in a pile of each substance.

Let each child stick their hand in, stick their nose in, or taste each item. While they are using their isolated sense, give them choices of adjectives to describe each item. For example, while they taste the food item, ask them if it is salty, sweet, bitter, or sour. Another example is when they are feeling what it is inside the bag, ask if it feels soft, hard, rough, smooth, furry, or spiky. If there is extra time, then you could have the students close their eyes and listen for sounds. For example, snaps, hissing, clapping, etc.

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

Large bag of M&Ms

**1 box of saltine crackers**  
**1 large grapefruit**  
**1 small stuffed animal**  
**1 piece of sandpaper**  
**1 prickly pinecone**  
**Handful of cotton balls**  
**Pepper**  
**Cinnamon**  
**Perfume**  
**Vinegar**  
**Paper bags**

**Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):**

**I suggest splitting the class into three small groups. Make sure that none of the students have allergies to any of the items in the paper bags.**

**Sources/References:**

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)