

USING OUR SENSES

Elementary Classroom Inservice

SUPPLIES: Blindfolds, different kinds of snacks (pretzels, chips) or cereal (Cheerios, Corn Bran), paper lunch bags

DISCUSSION ABOUT OUR SENSES:

What does the word 'senses' mean to you? (Use the following clues to elicit senses they haven't yet identified.)

Hearing: How do you know when its time for recess? How do your ears tell you?

Seeing: How do you know when it is safe to cross the street? How do your eyes tell you?

Smelling: How do you know when someone is making popcorn? How does your nose tell you?

Touching: How do you find your pencil in your desk if you don't want to bend over and look? How do your hands tell you?

Tasting: How do you know if you like something that you are eating? How does your tongue tell you?

Moving: Close your eyes. Open and close your hands. Keep doing that until I say stop. Keep your eyes closed. Are your hands open or closed? How do you know that?

What do our senses tell us? (They tell us what our world and our body looks like, sounds like, feels like, tastes like and smells like; and where our body is.

ACTIVITY:

Some people have senses that work differently than yours and mine. We're going to do some things so you can see what that is like.

We're going to have two groups. You can be in the moving group or the tasting group.

You will work with a partner.

One person in each pair will wear a blindfold. Decide who and come and get one.

Tasting group: Come and get a bag. Hold it for your partner to take something out and taste it. Don't tell them what it is. Can they guess?

Moving group: Bring your partner here. Take four objects (use anything that is handy) and put them on four desks.

DISCUSSION about the ACTIVITY:

Tasting Group:

- What did you find in the bag?
- How did you know what it was?

Moving Group:

- How did you feel when you were blindfolded? (scared, helpless?)
- How would you do your work if you could not see? (feel, move, listen?)
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CONCLUSION:

- What did your partner do that was helpful?
- What else might be helpful?
- Do you have any questions?

EVALUATION: (Pass out evaluation sheets)

What did you learn just now?

Circle the face (on the evaluation sheet) that tells me how much you learned.