

# Senses



## Overview

This term we will be studying the five human senses and what it is to be human! Children will be exploring how humans have evolved through time, how we age and what makes us human – from our ability to communicate, development of mathematics to tool building and how we act socially. They will then investigate how we smell, hear, taste, see and feel things using different investigations throughout the term.

**Here are some key topics we'll be studying:**

1. Humans through time
2. What makes us human
3. How we use the 5 human senses



## Key investigations

Our children love practical science and they will be involved in a number of investigations that really help them to develop their scientific skills; planning, data capture and analysis and evaluation. Here is an example of the type of investigation they'll be doing:

**Do we need saliva, smell or sight to taste?** Children will explore different foods while blindfolded and again pinching their noses to try to guess what it is. They will be able to investigate how important sight and taste are when tasting food and how different food can taste when they take these senses away.

## Exciting things

Did you know that there are only 5 tastes? Sweet, salty, bitter, sour and savoury. This means that all the different foods you can have are a mixture of only these 5 things!

Taste buds are the sensory cells on the tongue that help you detect these flavours. Everybody has a different number of taste buds and the number can range from 2,000 to 10,000 depending on the individual. This means that a picky eater may actually be experiencing more flavours in their foods than another person and be overly sensitive to tastes they dislike.



## Things to do at home

Why not try writing a poem about your senses? We wrote one with a different sense in each line.

*My eyes can see the trees that grow,  
My ears can hear the river flow,  
My nose can smell the grass just mown,  
My tongue can taste the ice-cream cone,  
My fingers feel the wind that swirled,  
My senses help explore the world.*

Share your poem online using the hashtag #empiriboxscience so we can see your wonderful poems.

