

Dear parents and caregivers,

We are about to start a new unit in science where we will be exploring materials and our senses. Through a variety of hands-on explorations and investigations, your child will be learning about the five senses and how these senses can be used to help us learn about the world around us and how they help to keep us safe from harm.

You can talk to your child at home about the senses and how we use them to describe materials. You might play “I Spy” with your child, having your child describe materials for you to identify.

You can plan some activities with your child to focus on their senses, for example,

- go for a walk and talk about what your child sees, hears, and smells
- find something in your home that has an interesting texture
- have a “tasting party” and taste things that are sweet, sour, salty, or bitter

You can invite your child to help you prepare food by adding or mixing ingredients. Discuss how you can alter the look and feel of the materials as well as changing the smell and taste of food.

To ensure a wide range of experiences and make connections between this topic and your child’s world, he/she may choose to bring one or more personal items to school for exploration during in-class activities. These items will be returned home once explorations are completed. To determine whether the item(s) is appropriate please contact me, your child’s teacher.

Sincerely,