

Preparing for the Unit

1. Curiosity Centre

The Curiosity Centre gives students an opportunity to investigate science ideas and tools through active participation, free exploration, and independent play. In this hands-on centre, students can explore objects related to materials and our senses.

The Curiosity Centre could have

- a variety of items for students to explore with their senses (except taste, which should be done under adult supervision) such as shells; feathers; buttons; ribbon; sequins; yarn; paper clips; marbles; metal washers; seeds or beans; crayons; plastic bottles; elastics; aluminum pie plates; paper; pencils; rulers; balloons; wool, aluminum foil, sandpaper; pipe cleaners; craft sticks; combs; straws; paper rolls; swatches of cloth with differing textures; paint swatches
- a variety of photographs from magazines of the body parts associated with each sense (eyes, ears, nose, tongue/nose, and skin) for students to examine and use a resource for drawing

Check the centre frequently to ensure it is well stocked with items. Invite students to contribute to the centre by bringing in items or photographs related to materials and our senses. Remind students to tidy up the materials when they are finished.

Note: You may choose to display new items every few days or introduce items one at a time throughout the unit.

2. Prepare Science Journals and Folders



Check that students are recording appropriately in their Science Journals, ensuring that they date each entry and record ideas using sketches with labels, lists of words, or sentences. Continue to encourage them to add new questions or ideas to their Journals as often as they like.

Remind students that they should store completed BLMs, drawings, stories, etc. that are related to the *Materials and Our Senses* unit in their Science Folders.

3. Word Wall



Add any relevant science terminology to the Word Wall throughout the unit. Urge students to use the terms as often as possible as they work through the unit.

4. I Wonder Wall



Build the I Wonder Wall throughout the unit by posting students' questions as they arise. Refer to the I Wonder Wall often and select questions that students may be ready to answer.

5. Reading Centre

Add texts (books, magazines, and photographs) relating to the senses and how we use them to the Reading Centre. The titles in the Science library will help start off a collection of books. Also refer to the lists of non-fiction texts in the Additional Resources section of this guide (page 59).