

The sense of touch 1

How do we feel things?

We feel things because of nerves under the skin. Nerves are like little cords that send messages to the brain. They also send messages from the brain back to our body parts.

1. Copy:

We feel things because of under the skin.

Nerves carry m.....

2. Draw some pictures to show the messages that the nerves give us:

This is hot!

This is cold!

This hurts!

This feels soft.

This feels smooth.

3. Think about the way things feel. Things can feel soft, fluffy, slippery, hard, rough or smooth.

Look around the room for three objects and write down what the texture is like.

e.g. The table feels smooth.

4. Now write about three more objects that are not in the room.

A feels

A feels

A feels

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Hot and cold

You can only tell that something is hotter or colder than your skin.

1. Fill a glass with hot water.

2. Fill another glass with ice water.

3. Fill another glass with warm water.

4. Stand the glasses in a line.

5. Put one finger into the hot water and one in to the cold water. Leave them there a minute.

6. Dip the hot finger into the warm water.

How does the warm water feel?

Copy:

When I dip my finger into the warm water it feels

.....

This is because the water is not as hot as my

7. Now dip the cold finger into the warm water.

Copy:

When I dip my finger into the warm water it feels

..... because

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Touch test

We feel things because of the nerves under our skin.

There are feeling points called receptors.

The feeling points can be close together or far apart.

Science experiment

In this experiment you will find out where the receptors are close together and where they are far apart.

Take a polystyrene block and stick two pins in it.

The pin heads are about 1 cm out of the polystyrene. They are the same height.

Get a friend to put a blind fold on.

Press the pin heads GENTLY against your friend's skin at these places:

1. the palm of the hand
2. the fingertips
3. the inside of the arm.

What did you find?

The fingertips can feel things better because the nerve receptors are close together here.

The palm can not feel as well as the fingertips.

The arm cannot feel things as well as the fingertips or palm.

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God created us with a sense of touch

Do you know why?

God is a protector. He gave us the sense of touch to protect us from things we come into contact with.

When we touch something that is hot we take our hand away quickly. If we left our hand on something hot for more than a second we would have a very bad burn.

When the weather is cold we feel cold and know to wear warm clothes. If we wore thin clothes in cold weather we may catch a cold.

If we touch something sharp we pull our hand away immediately. If we walk on something sharp we move our feet so as not to hurt our feet.

The sense of touch one of the many special gifts God gave us when He made us. He thought about everything a human being would need!

Why is the sense of touch important to our safety?

Draw some things that would hurt us if we touched them.