

Can You Hear Me?

In school the children have explored the five senses and how each one helps them to understand the world around them. This activity focuses on the sense of hearing.

WHAT YOU NEED:

- small radio or tape player
- scarf to use as a blindfold

WHAT TO DO:

1. Ask your child to recall the five senses (taste, smell, touch, sight, hearing.)
2. Tell your child you are going to play a "hearing" game. Have your child leave the room.
3. Hide the radio in the room. Be sure the radio volume is on low. Have your child come back in the room and find the radio.
4. Repeat this procedure a few times, hiding the radio in a different location each time while decreasing its volume.
5. After a number of times, the volume will be too low to locate the radio. Discuss with your child how our ears help us identify sounds and pinpoint locations.
6. Blindfold your child, and create a sound (tap, bang, knock, ring, etc.). Ask your child to identify the sound and its location in the room (near the door, window, television).
7. Trade places with your child to identify sounds he/she creates.
8. Listen to music together and talk about the different sounds you hear.

SUMMARY: Our senses help us identify and understand things in our environment.

EXTENSIONS:

Further Investigation:

Try to tell a story in sounds and give it a title, for example, "*Mornings at My House*".

Math Connections:

- If you are playing this "hearing game" with mommy, daddy, and grandma: How many ears are listening? How many scarves will you need and why? How many radios will you need and why?
- If you are playing this game with your mom, how many pairs of ears are listening?

Literary Connections:

- Whitehouse-Peterson, Jeanne. *I Have a Sister, My Sister Is Deaf*. New York: Harper and Row, 1984.
- Showers Paul. *Ears Are For Hearing*. New York: Harper Collins, 1990.
- Kineaid, Doug. *Ears and Hearing*. Arnold-Wheaton, 1982.

Related Web Sites:

<http://ofcn.org/cyber.serv/academy/ace/sci/cecsci/cecsci033.html>

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/chhearing.html>