

Summer 2024—Sensory

Series Curriculum Overview








	Lesson Title	Lesson Description	Sensory Focus
Pre Season	 Intro Lesson Nature Nectar	In our summer introductory lesson, we'll activate our senses as we mix, mash, and stir natural ingredients together to create our own "nature nectar."	Sensory Focus: Intro to Summer Tinkergarten Featured Creature: Butterfly
Unit 1: The "Famous Five"	 Lesson 1 Mud Sensation	We'll kick off our summer series by awakening our sense of touch with our favorite messy play material—mud! We'll explore new textures and sensations as each of us discovers our own "just right" way to play with mud.	Sensory Focus: Sense of Touch Featured Creature: African Elephant
	 Lesson 2 Follow Your Nose	In this lesson, we'll activate our olfactory sense with a hunt for scented objects hidden around us. Then, we'll use the scented ingredients we found to create our own nature perfumes.	Sensory Focus: Sense of Smell Featured Creature: Bear
	 Lesson 3 Summer Symphony	This time, we'll take a listening walk to tune our ears into the many sounds of summer. Then, taking inspiration from the musical critters of summer, we'll use the objects around us to create our own summer symphony.	Sensory Focus: Sense of Hearing Featured Creature: Cicada
Unit 2: Hidden Senses	 Lesson 4 Sensing Color	The natural world is full of color, and this lesson invites us to stimulate our senses of sight, smell, touch, and even sound as we mash, mix, and extract pigments from plants, fruits, and other natural objects.	Sensory Focus: Activating and Integrating Multiple Senses Featured Creature: Eagle

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Unit 2: Hidden Senses	 Lesson 5 Heavy Work	In this lesson, we'll activate our big muscles with some heavy work! As we push, pull, and move heavy objects, we'll engage the <u>proprioceptive sense</u> , one of the hidden senses that has a big impact on how kids learn.	Sensory Focus: Proprioceptive Sense Featured Creature: Camel
	 Lesson 6 Over, Under, All Around	This lesson invites us to try animal-inspired movements that challenge us to move our heads and bodies in different positions. As we move and play, we'll activate our <u>vestibular sense</u> .	Sensory Focus: Vestibular Sense Featured Creature: Bat
Unit 3: Sense of Joy and Wonder	 Lesson 7 Keep Your Cool	Finding strategies to stay cool when summer weather heats up is a super way to help kids keep the joy going! In this lesson, we'll play with stone pigs, frozen treasures, mud, and water to explore the sensation of temperature.	Sensory Focus: Sensing Temperature Featured Creature: Pig
	 Lesson 8 Sensing Wonder	In this lesson, we'll help kids discover some hidden materials left for them in their outdoor space. We'll activate a sense of wonder and explore the different ways we can play, create, and imagine.	Sensory Focus: Sense of Wonder Featured Creature: Explorers!
	 Lesson 9 Bubble Joy	In our final lesson, we activate multiple senses and sense the power of joy using a delightful play material—bubbles. What a marvelous way to end a season of sensory play and learning together!	Sensory Focus: Sensing Joy Featured Creature: Dolphin

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Recommended Book List

Titles to compliment each of the lessons in the Sensory series:

PreSeason—*Outside In* by Deborah Underwood

Lesson 1—*Mud* by Mary Lyn Ray

Lesson 2—*When Lola Visits* by Michelle Sterling

Lesson 3—*Noisy Bug Sing-Along* by John Himmelman

Lesson 4—*What Color is the Wind?* by Anne Herbauts

Lesson 5—*Red Wagon* by Renata Liwska

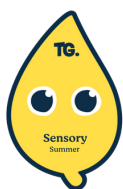
Lesson 6—*Move!* by Robin Page

Lesson 7—*One Hot Summer Day* by Nina Crews

Lesson 8—*Everywhere Wonder* by Matthew Swanson

Lesson 9—*The Bubble* by Joseph Patenaude

Focus Skill—Sensory



Our senses are central to how we experience the world, how we behave, and how we learn. This Summer, our curriculum is designed to help each child strengthen and balance their senses in the most stimulating and soothing classroom of all—the great outdoors.

Up Next:



Fall For Autumn Event—August

Our end of summer community event will inspire TG families everywhere to fall in love with autumn in their biome.



Fall 2024—Focus Series

In our Fall curriculum, we'll use the marvelous treasures of the natural world to inspire play, connect kids to the natural world, and engage kids in the kind of wondering, exploring, pretending and problem solving that helps them develop focus.