

# Explore At Home

Explore in and around your home with these suggestions!

## Explore Objects (For children 2 and under)

**Materials Needed:** Shoe box or purse, variety of child-safe objects. **Caution:** Closely supervise children during this activity. Be aware of choking and other hazards.

Hide a few objects inside a shoe box or purse. Let your child unpack and explore the objects. Choose everyday objects with different textures, colors, and sizes.



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## Dress to Explore

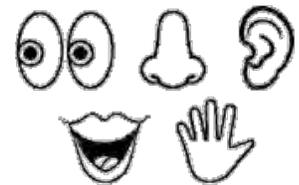
**Materials Needed:** Clothes for various types of weather.

Turn getting dressed into a fun activity. Imagine you are planning an expedition. Where are you going? Is it a warm or cold place? Is it near water or mountains? What if you travelled to outer space? Look around your home to find the perfect outfit. Challenge your parents to put on their exploration clothes too!

## Five Senses Scavenger Hunt

**Materials Needed:** Five Senses Exploration Cards printable (optional).

We use our senses to discover the world around us every day! Go on a sensory exploration: use the printed cards or point to the nose, ears, fingers, eyes, and mouth. For example, pick the nose card and find something to smell, or pick the ear card and find something to listen to.



## Explore and Share!

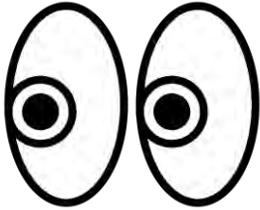
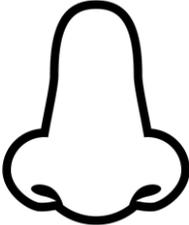
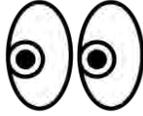
**Materials Needed:** Explore and Share printable (optional).

Sharing our discoveries is how we help others learn about new places! Explore around your house or outdoors, making observations and collecting objects. Use the *Explore and Share* sheet as a guide to sharing what you find.

# Five Senses Exploration Cards Printable

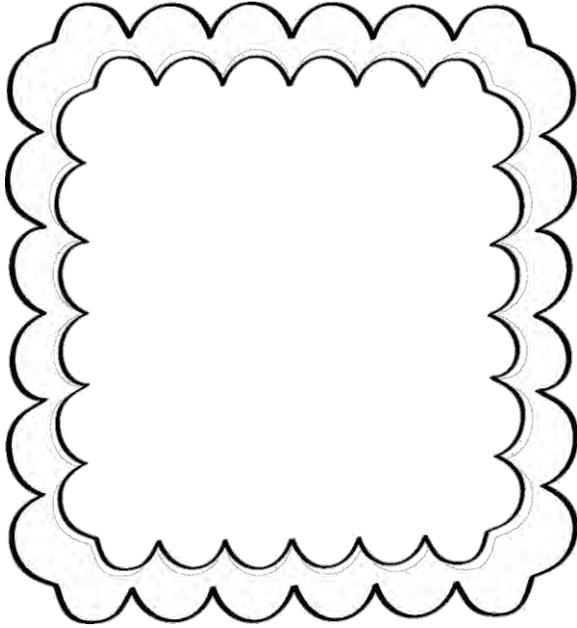
Print and color. Cut along the dotted lines.

*Caution: Talk with your child about what is appropriate to explore with different senses (for example, food can be tasted but other things should not be).*

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Eyes</p>  <p>See</p>     | <p>Nose</p>  <p>Smell</p>   |
| <p>Ears</p>  <p>Hear</p>  | <p>Tongue</p>  <p>Taste</p>  |
| <p>Hand</p>  <p>Touch</p> |    <p>Explore with all five senses!</p>   |

# Explore and Share Printable

This is a picture of me exploring.



I explored this place!



I noticed something interesting...



I found this!



# Exploring Our World



## Humans are Explorers

Since the beginning of time, humans have explored the world. Our curiosity and observations have helped us survive in different environments around the world. Exploration helps us adapt to new situations. We continue to learn about the places that surround us.

## Places and Things to Explore

There are many ways to explore! People have tackled extreme adventures such as reaching the Earth's poles, exploring the deep oceans, trekking to mountaintops, and even traveling to space! Archaeologists and earth scientists explore underground clues to Earth's history. Some biologists explore the tiny molecules that make up our bodies. Most of what we know about ourselves and our world today comes from our explorations.



Icebreaker ship Polar Stern on a research trip to study climate change.  
*Image: NASA.*

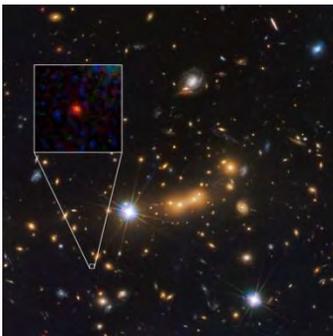


## Tools for Exploration

We explore with our five senses. They give us a lot of information: color, texture, smell, taste, etc. We also use tools to explore because our senses are limited. For example, our eyes cannot see things that are too small or too far away. Magnifying glasses and microscopes help us see small things, while telescopes and binoculars help us see things that are far away. Tools allow us to make detailed observations and explore further.

## Exploring Beyond the Limits

Many places are difficult for humans to explore; they are too far away, too small, or too extreme for people to survive. But we have invented new ways to explore beyond those limits. Our explorations of space go deeper and deeper into the universe. The Hubble Space Telescope helped us find the oldest galaxy ever observed, over 13 billion light years away! Today, the Parker Solar Probe is travelling closer to the Sun than ever before. Humans truly test the limits of exploration under extreme conditions.



The Hubble Space Telescope spots a candidate for the most distant galaxy ever observed.  
*Image: NASA.*