

# BROWNIE BADGES TO DO AT HOME



## Senses

**Y**ou have five senses that work together to let you see, hear, smell, taste, and touch the world around you. Try all five in this badge!

### Steps

1. Look around
2. Listen to the world
3. Put your nose to work
4. Take a taste test
5. Touch and feel

### Purpose

When I've earned this badge, I'll know how I use my five senses to explore the world.

*To earn this badge, please complete one option per step.*

| STEPS         | BADGE REQUIREMENTS   | OPTION 1  | OPTION 2   | OPTION 3   |
|---------------|----------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>Step 1</b> | Look around.         | Hold a scavenger hunt in your home or yard. Find at least 10 tiny things, like a clover or anthill (outside) or Lego or marble (inside).                    | Play Kim's Game. Ask a sibling or family member to collect 10 items and place them on a table. Cover the items on the table. Lift the cloth for 10 seconds. Then re-cover the items and list what you saw. How many items could you remember?  | Go on a window hunt. Partner with a sibling or family member and look out a window. Keep a list of how many human-made things you can see, like chairs, fences, or machines; and how many natural things, like animals, clouds, and trees. Who found the most?                                 |
| <b>Step 2</b> | Listen to the world. | Listen for different sounds. If you are inside, listen for sounds outside (no peeking out the window!). Draw pictures of what might be making those sounds. | Listen to sound boxes. Take an empty container with a lid and 10 different objects, things such as a coin or a spoonful of rice. Look at the objects with a sibling or family member. Then blindfold her/him and put one of the objects in the container. Put on the lid and shake it. Can she/he guess which object is making noise? Do this for three objects, and then switch places. | Wear safety earplugs to understand what it is like to lose some of your hearing. Listen to three different sounds for three minutes each with the earplugs in. Take the earplugs out, and listen for a little bit longer. Talk about what it is like to hear the same sounds, but differently. |

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|---------------|------------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>Step 3</b> | Put your nose to work. | Follow a sibling or family member using only your nose. Have an adult help you find something with a strong scent, like a lemon slice or a cinnamon stick. Blindfold yourself, have the sibling/family member hold the item close to your nose, and see if you can follow the person for a short distance using your sense of smell.                     | Play a smelly game with your family. Find five containers with lids and mark a number on each. Put an item with a strong smell — such as an orange peel or coffee — into each container and poke holes in the lid. Write down the number of each container and what is inside. Now rearrange the containers and try to identify the item that is in each one by smell. | Try sniffing out three different foods. Put on a blindfold. Have someone else hold three different, but similar foods under your nose. Guess what you think each food is.   |
| <b>Step 4</b> | Take a taste test.     | Do a taste test with salty, sweet, bitter, and sour foods. Taste at least one thing with each flavor. Talk about which flavors you like best and which ones you like least. Do any of the foods have more than one flavor?   | Look at the taste buds on a sibling or family member's tongue. Without touching her/his tongue, use a safe, plastic magnifying glass to see her/his taste buds. Then let her look at yours. Talk about what they look like, and find out the scientific name for a taste bud and how many are on one's tongue.   | Explore how sight influences taste. With an adult, dye one food a different color than it was originally. You can try making blue milk or pink pancakes! Taste the food with its normal color, then its new color. Talk with your family about whether it tastes different to you, and if you like the taste better if the food is a different color. |
| <b>Step 5</b> | Touch and feel.        | Find things that have different textures and create a "feel wheel." Cut a big circle out of poster board or cardboard and divide it into eight pie slices. In each slice, glue something that has a different texture, like smooth, rough, sticky, bumpy, hard, squishy, or hairy. Then ask your family to close their eyes and guess what each item is. | Try an arm or leg touch test. Glue some thin thread or fishing line to a popsicle stick. Gently touch a blindfolded person with the thread. Can she feel it? Why or why not? Then swap places so you can take a turn.  | Try Braille. When someone is missing their sense of sight, they might read with their sense of touch by feeling a set of raised dots. These dots are part of a special system called Braille. <a href="#">Use the alphabet to figure out how to write your name in Braille.</a>   |