

Amazing me! (Foundation & KS 1)

PREPARATION GUIDE

Have you ever wondered just how amazing you really are? This interactive show explores how our amazing senses help us figure out what is happening in the world around them; the important jobs played by some of our major organs; and why we would fall apart without bones and muscles.



Our shows are designed to work flexibly as introductions to a topic or to revise a topic depending on what approach teachers would like us to adopt with particular audiences. Teachers may wish to use this overview to help to prepare their classes before the show. Introducing or revising key vocabulary and concepts in advance of the show tends to increase the learning outcomes from the presentation.

Key concepts and vocabulary

- We make sense of the many different things happening around us all of the time by using our **senses**. Each of these senses takes in information from our surroundings and sends **messages** to our **brain** so that we can usually work out what is going on.
- We usually say that humans have five main senses – **sight, hearing, tasting, smelling, touching**. Each of these senses uses a different part of our body – **eyes, ears, tongue, nose and skin**.
- **Vision** or sight is most people's best sense – it's how we get most of our information about the world around us.
- **Sound waves** are invisible ripples in the air (**vibrations**) that travel outwards in all directions from the object making the sound. We cannot see these ripples but our ears can feel them.
- Your tongue have **taste buds** which detect particular tastes. There are four basic tastes – **bitter, sour, salty, sweet**. Can you think of examples of each of these tastes?
- Your sense of smell is much better than your sense of taste. In fact your sense of smell can change the way food tastes to you.
- **Nerves** are a bit like wires that carry electrical messages from different parts of your body back to your brain. Tiny nerves in your skin tell you if surfaces are rough or smooth, hard or soft, hot or cold. Different parts of your body have more nerves in the skin than others.
- What other senses do we have as well as these five senses?
- **Heart** – a group of strong muscles in your chest that the pumps blood around the body.
- **Lungs** – used to breathe air so that the oxygen part of it can be passed around the body.
- **Stomach** – to help digest our food.
- **Intestines** – a set of two tubes that help to digest our food and absorb the good parts into our blood.
- The skeleton is a framework of **bones** that holds the body up and protects the soft organs underneath.
- The **muscles** attached to your bones are what makes them move by stretching and shrinking like rubber bands.
- Perhaps one of the most amazing things about our bodies is that our senses, our brain, our organs and our bones and muscles are all connected so that they can work together.

Further information explaining the demonstrations and concepts used in the show, with some suggested follow-up activities, can be found in the support notes for this show at www.think-differently.co.uk