

Farmyard Sensory Station Ideas

Intended Age: Foundation Phase

Focus: Knowledge & understanding of the world

Curriculum Links:

Range - Myself and other living things, Myself and non-living things

Skills - exploring and experimenting, thinking about questions and then asking them and listening to the answers, making observations and measurements and keeping records, making comparisons and identifying similarities and differences, communicating observations and measurements.

Learning Objectives:

To be able to identify the 5 senses

To be able to identify different animals and plants

To describe animals and plants using the 5 senses

Key Vocabulary:

Sense, Feel, Touch, Smell, Listen, Hear, Sound, Tongue, Taste, Rough, Smooth, Sweet, Bitter, Sour, Slimy, Speckled, Bumpy, Colourful, Plain.

Introduction:

Watch the Science Farm – Farm Senses Video ([link](#))

Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes – remind ourselves of all the body parts.

The Farmer says... Point to the body part you smell with, point to the body part you listen with, point to the body part you touch with etc.

Main Session:

The ideal farm sensory trail will have a number of stations (see some of our suggested ideas for stations)

Children rotate around each station in small groups. A timer and a bell/whistle/musical noise is helpful to indicate time to move on. Stations could be 'staffed' by upper KS2 helpers (they could even be enlisted to design the stations –see more ideas)

Children use the record keeping sheet to fill in as they access each station. This can be done individually, as a group or answers can be given verbally to an adult/KS2 scribe depending on ability levels.

Simple equipment such as magnifying glasses, microscopes and clipboards will enhance the experience for learners and allow them to offer more in depth answers when being asked what they see.

Plenary:

Class discussion - My favourite smell was _____ because _____. My favourite taste was _____ because it was _____. Etc.

Extension Activities and more ideas:

- This activity lends itself exceptionally well to being run as part of a visit to a local farm. Share the resource with the farmer ahead of time to identify potential stations. You could show the video in advance of the trip to prime learners.
- Leave more durable elements of your sensory trail in place to allow learners to revisit different sensory experiences. These could be paired with vocab mats/prompts to describe the senses.
- This is a great opportunity for older learners to share experiences with younger learners. KS2 learners could design a sensory trail based around their own visit to a farm. They could record their own sounds and video, collect materials and apply food technology skills once back in the classroom.