

LESSON No. 7



ANIMALS AND THEIR SENSES

Have you seen ants carrying eatables ? You may experience it by doing this activity.

Keep some sugar grains or a piece of bread on floor in an open place. Wait until the ants come there. What do you find ? Write it.

* Did it take long for the ants to come?

* Did one ant came first or a group of ants? What do they do with the food?



* Where do they go from there?

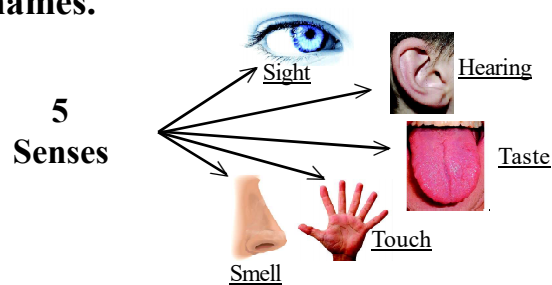
* Do they move in a line.

Now carefully, without harming the ants, block their path for a while with a pencil.

* Now observe, how do the ants move?

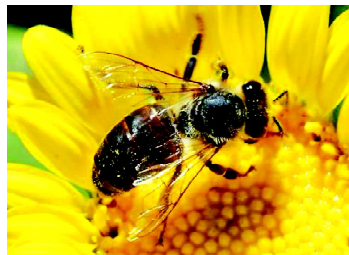
Many years ago scientists have done many experiments like this. They have found out that as the ants move they leave a smell on the ground. The other ants follow the smell to find the way.

How do you sense the world around you? Through our sense organs we feel the world around us. Sense organs are the windows through which we can feel the world. How many sense organs do you have? Write their names.



How do animals know about the world around them?

Animals also know about the world through their sense organs. Have you seen dog sniffing here and there? Why do you think it is trying to smell?



Most animals move around in search of food. With the help of their sense organs, animals find their food.

Keep a piece of meat on the ground where animals such as dogs or cats are there. Watch the animals approaching towards the meat. How do they sense the food?

Dogs mark out their own area on the road. They can make out if another dog has come into their area by the smell of its urine or potty.

Feed your dog for some days regularly at fixed time say after coming back from school. After 4 to 5 days observe what do you find?



You will find that your dog will come to you when you came back from school. Think ! What helps the dog to come to you when came back from school?

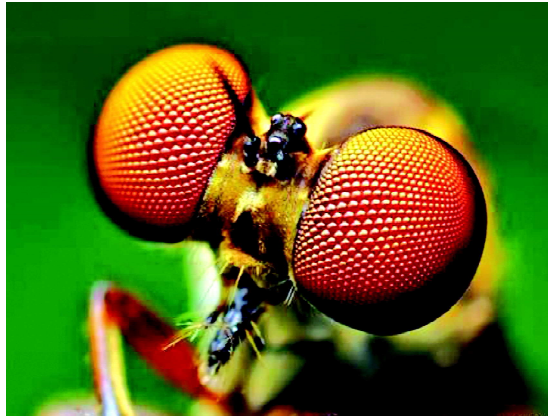
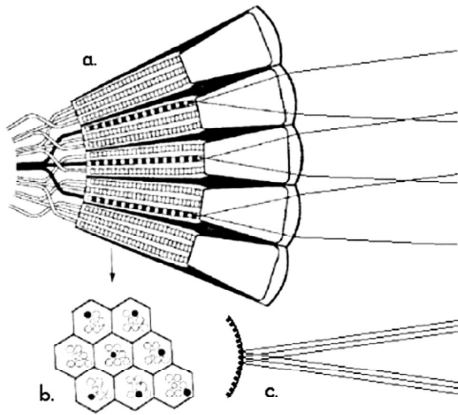
Feeding the animals is a great rewarding experience.

Different animals have different strong senses.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CLASS- V

How do insects know about the things happening around them ?

Insects have two types of eyes - Simple and Compound eyes.



Simple eyes detect change of day and night. Compound eyes are made of thousands of small eyes and are able to sense movements and judge distance accurately.

Some birds like kites, eagles, vultures can see four times as far as we can. These birds can see things from a distance of eight metres what we can see from a distance of two metres.

They spot their prey from several kilometers away. Owls have large eyes but they cannot move their eyes. In order to see they can turn their neck at large angles to have a wider view.



* Now can you guess from what distance can an eagle in the sky see a snake on the ground?

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CLASS- V

Spiders have good sense of hearing.
They have poor eyesight.



Sharks have good sense of smell. They can even detect a single drop of blood in a huge volume of water.



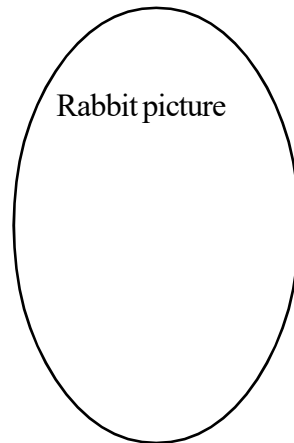
All fishes have eyes on either side of their head which give them a wider field of vision.

Animals such as mice, squirrels, rats have great sense of smell and hearing. They use their sensitive whiskers to find out about their food.

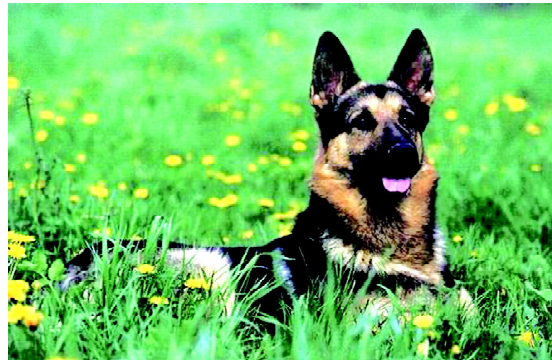
Rabbits have large ears to sense danger.

Animals such as lion, tigers, cat, dogs use smell to communicate with others.

Rabbit picture



Why does Police take help of dog to detect criminal? Dogs have a very good sense of smell about 50 times more than the human beings. That is why Police take help of dogs to catch thieves and criminal.



ACTIVITY

- 1. Collect some eatable such as cooked and uncooked rice, cooked vegetables, raw vegetables, bread, and meats. Keep all these things in an open place. Observe the animals approaching the food. Write your observation.*