

Taste and Smell

How connected are our senses of taste and smell?

We have learned that without our sense of smell, our sense of taste is weak. In other words, food tastes stronger when we can smell it, too.

Now it's time to find this out for yourself! Work with a partner.

FOR THIS ACTIVITY, you will need: • 2 pieces of raw potato (on a plate or paper towel) • 2 pieces of raw apple • a blindfold

STEPS:

- **1.** Wash your hands before you begin.
- 2. Be sure that the pieces of potato and apple are all about the same size. One piece of potato and one piece of apple should be on a desk or table in front of you.
- 3. Partner A puts on the blindfold. (Partner B stands close by to help Partner A.)
- **4.** Partner B moves the pieces of apple and potato on the desk so that Partner A does not know which is which.
- **5.** Partner A holds his or her nose **shut**. Then they pick up one of the pieces of food and taste it. What are they tasting the potato or the apple?
- 6. Partner A repeats Step 5 with the second piece of food.
- 7. Partner B tells Partner A whether they were correct.
- 8. Switch roles and repeat Steps 1 to 7.

Record your results below. What did the foods taste like? Could you tell the difference between them?

Did your experience **support** what you have learned (that taste and smell are connected)?

