

Sensory expeditions

purpleSTARS offers ideas that schools might use to make their visits to museums and heritage sites more engaging and inclusive

This selection of resources has been taken from the *Sensory Expeditions* book, created by purpleSTARS to help people with learning disabilities get more out of their visits to museums and heritage sites.

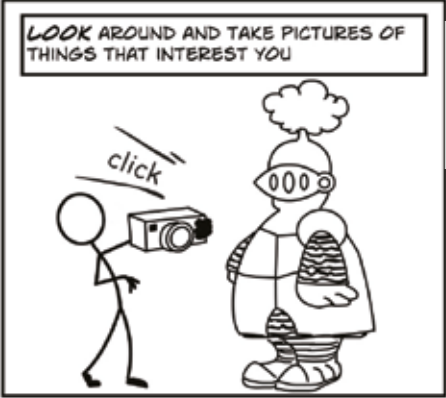
The idea behind a sensory expedition is that visitors explore the setting looking for items they find particularly

interesting or intriguing. Using all five senses, they collect material about the item, and use this as the inspiration for an artefact that captures what the item means to them on a personal level and memories that it evokes.

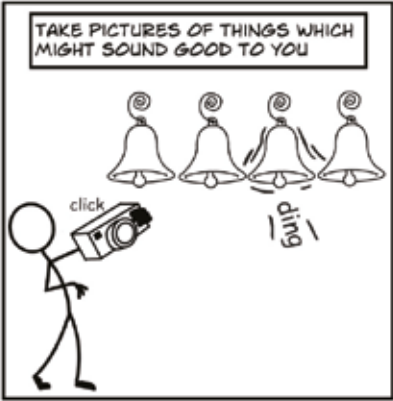
For a fuller explanation of the approach and examples of artefacts people have made, see *Please do touch* on pages 20-22.

SENSORY EXPEDITION

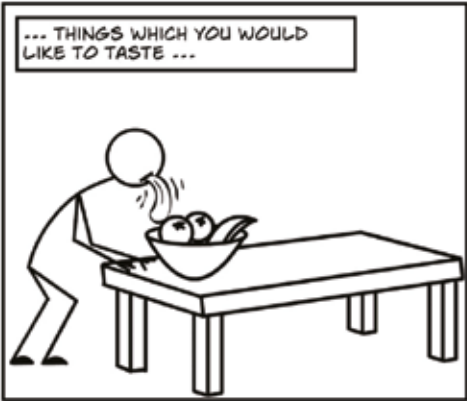
LOOK AROUND AND TAKE PICTURES OF THINGS THAT INTEREST YOU




TAKE PICTURES OF THINGS WHICH MIGHT SOUND GOOD TO YOU



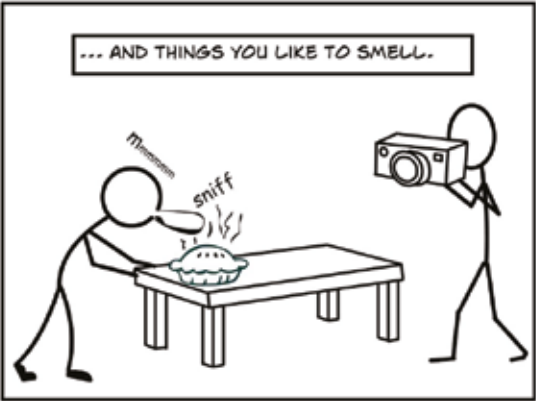
... THINGS WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO TASTE ...








... THINGS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO TOUCH



... AND THINGS YOU LIKE TO SMELL.



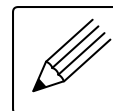
Match the symbols below to the comic strip. For example, in which frame is touch being used?








Taking a picture of afternoon tea in a Victorian museum

which senses did you use?



Use this worksheet to make a note of which senses you used during the expedition, and where the senses were used. You can then use this worksheet to remind you of where you used your different senses for other activities.

	What did you see?	
	Were there things you would like to have touched?	
	Were there things you would like to have smelled?	
	Were there things you would like to have tasted?	
	What did you hear?	

COLLECTING SOUNDS

LISTEN FOR SOUNDS

DING

LISTEN

... AND MAKE A NOTE OR SKETCH OF WHAT THEY ARE.

SKETCH

IF YOU HAVE ONE, USE A SOUND RECORDER ...

... TO RECORD THE SOUNDS



ding dong

RECORD

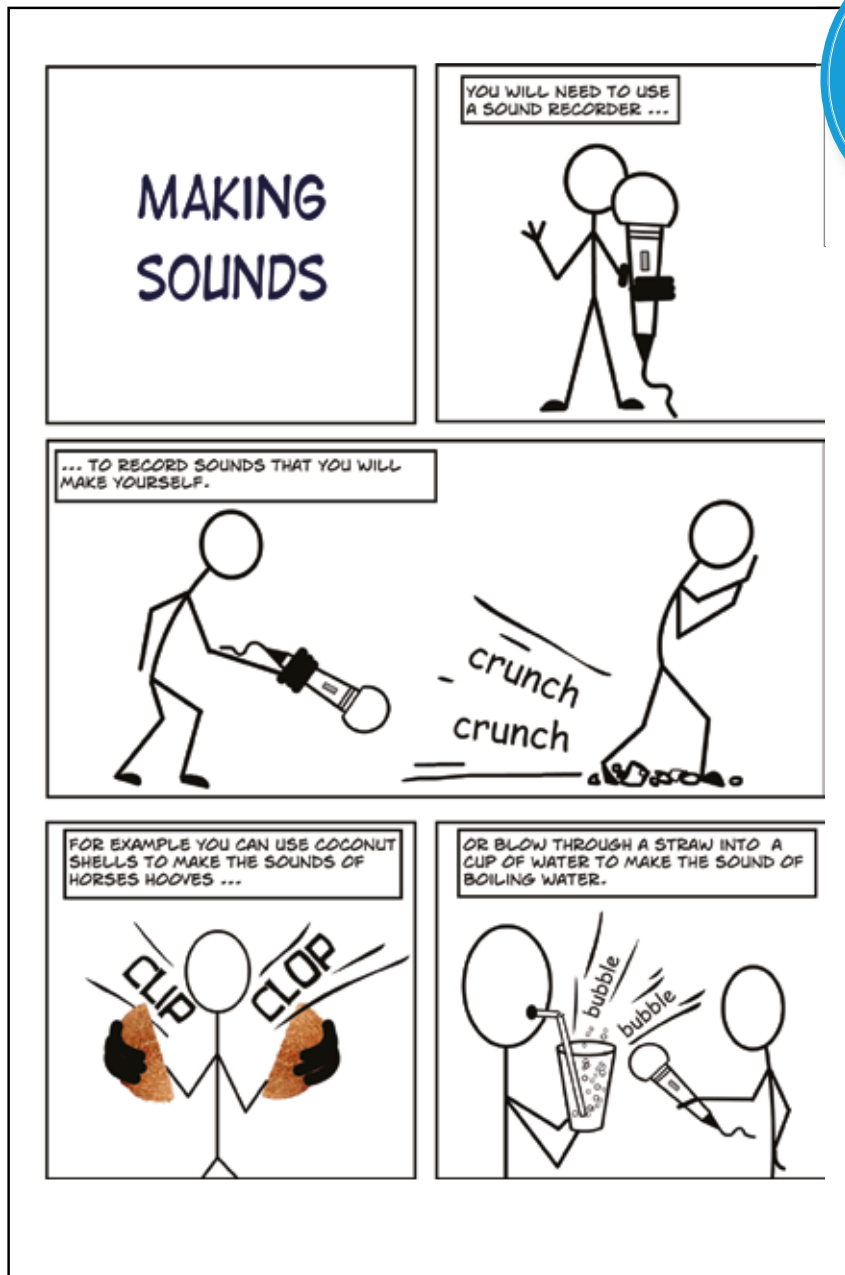
YOU COULD PLAY THEM BACK AND CHOOSE YOUR FAVOURITE SOUNDS LATER ON.

PLAY

TOP TIP
Make a sketch or take a photograph of where each sound came from

	What sounds did you hear? Which sounds did you like the most?	
	What made the sounds?	





TOP TIP
It's best to work in pairs, so that one person can hold the microphone steady while the other produces the sound effects






To obtain a copy of the full resource, which explains how to collect smells and textures as well as how to make sensory labels and movie sound tracks, contact: purpleSTARS RIX Research & Media University of East London 4-6 University Way, London E16 2RD. Tel: 020 8223 7561.

Ideas for sounds

A crackling fire. Squeeze bubble wrap or a piece of stiff cellophane. Hold it fairly close to the microphone for a clear effect.

Walking on gravel. Place a box of gravel on the floor and walk on the spot, or slip a pair of shoes over your hands and walk on the gravel that way.

Sword fighting. You can make realistic sword fighting sounds by hitting together a pair of large kitchen utensils, such as a soup ladle and roasting fork. They need to be metal for this to work!

	<p>What sounds did you make?</p>	 
	<p>Which sounds did you enjoy making the most?</p>	
	<p>Play back the sounds on a computer and share them with others.</p>	