

Small Science Learning Tasks

To add atmosphere to film, TV, radio and theatre shows music and sound effects are added. When you hear a creaking door, is it really a creaking door or is it someone making a sound like that? You can use everyday materials to make sound effects. Below are ideas to make animal sounds.

- Make a snake sound: You will need sealable container/tube and some rice. Fill the container with rice. Turn the container over and over.
- 2. Make a chicken sound. You will need tin can or plastic cup, some string. Make a small hole in the base of a can or plastic cup. Thread string through with a knot on the inside. Wet your fingers and run them down the inside of the string to produce a chicken noise.
- 3. Make cricket sounds: You will need jar lids/flan lids/similar lids. Gently push down in the middle of the upturned lid.

Sound travels through vibrations in the air. Try changing the volume of your sounds. Remember: the stronger the vibrations, the louder the sound!

Body: fact or fiction?

Is your arm span the same as your height? Is the length of your foot the same as the circumference of your fist? Is the height of your ear the same as the height of your nose? Is the width of your head(from ear to ear) the same as the depth of your head from the top of your forehead to your chin?

With a tape measure or a piece of string/strip of paper, measure parts of to find out if these are body facts or body fictions.

Try these out on other people in your home and see if the results are the same! Can you think of or find out more body facts? Once you have the answers get creative and think how to present your facts!

Look at the sun and stars!

Sailors used to look at the position of the sun and stars to guide their directions. The earth spins on its axis so the Sun appears to rise in the East and set in the West. Can you look at the position of the sun when you wake up, at lunchtime and late afternoon? What do you notice about how the shadows change? Why do we have day and night?

Sailors could tell where they were in the world depending on whether they could see certain constellations of stars like the North Star - Polaris. The Plough / Big Dipper always points to Polaris. When it is dark, look at the sky. Can you find Polaris, the brightest star Sirius and groups of stars together (constellations)?

Fingerprint investigation:

Did you know that we have patterns on our bodies that are unique to us? If you look closely at your fingertips on the palm of your hand you will see swirls of lines. These are your fingerprints; your fingerprints will be different from your family and friends!

Find out what they look like: Either rub a pencil (not colour) onto a piece of paper or sprinkle a small amount of dust (flour, chalk, talcum powder, cocoa powder) on a table.

Press your thumb in the dust or on the pencil rubbing. Place your thumb firmly on the sticky side of a piece of sellotape. Now stick your sellotape onto a piece of paper.

Keep going until you get a clear print. Look at your prints – what patterns can you see?

Compare yours to someone else!

