Using Growing Up WILD Activities to Explore our Sense of Smell
Last updated 10.17.2024

Ants on Parade, p. 22, see last paragraph in Quick Facts. Adapt the activity to have a smell trail, like in the Project WILD activity "Sockeye Scents" (but become ants following a pheromone trail rather than salmon smelling their way upstream to their birth location).   See also "Ants go Marching" song on p. 25: "nine by nine, smell the pine."

Looking at Leaves. On p. 31. See "Outdoor Ready, Set, Go! #1. We use all four senses, even when observing leaves. Also, on page 33, the Five Senses Song and the Leaf Poem have references to smell. The data sheet on page 141 also has learners record data for what they smell. The Home Connection Card (p. 193) has child 1) use all senses to explore similarities and differences between leaves (in Journal activity) and 2) use smell as part of the "Leaf Hunt."

In a Grasshoppers World, p. 34. Antennae are used to feel and smell things (see Quick Facts).

The Deep Blue Sea, p. 55, Ready, Set, Go! #1 What does fresh water smell like compared to salt water.

Fishing Fun, P. 62. Reference to fish smell their food in quick facts.   You could adapt procedures to ask "What kind of food do you think smells best to a fish? What could you use to catch a fish?"

Tracks! P. 73. The Fox and Geese Game. Predator / Prey game of tag on a scent trail (made from chalk lines). See also the definition for the word "sign" on p. 240. This ties in with "Tracks!" as well as the activity "Wildlife is Everywhere."

Oh Deer! p. 94.   Deer use their keen sense of smell (see Quick Facts).

What's Wild? The story script (p. 145) includes mention of the dog's ability to smell.

Book reference, p. 216:

> *Cat in the Hat, Knows a Lot About That!: I Love the Nightlife!*
> by Tish Rabe
> Sally, Nick, and the Cat in the Hat
> rely on the help of nocturnal animals
> who use their keen vision, hearing,
> and sense of smell to locate the
> Cat's lost hat.

Vocabulary word, p. 240: "Sign: a mark, smell, sound or indication that something was there."