

TASTY, SMELLY EXPERIMENTS

Without your nose, you may not be able to tell the difference between foods — especially if the foods all have the same texture (like jelly beans with different flavors, gushy yogurt and pudding, or different fruit and vegetable juices).



What You Need:

An adult to help

One or two friends or family members

A blindfold

A chart to record your data (format the chart like the example shown below)

Foods to taste (several different flavors of a similarly-textured food or drink)

Spoons, forks, cups, napkins (as necessary)

Drinking water for each test subject

Experimental Procedure:

Blindfold one test subject at a time.

Ask your test subject to pinch his or her nose so he or she cannot smell.

Offer your test subject one flavor of the food at a time. Take a drink of water between the different foods. Try to keep the nose pinched the entire time, including between tastings and guesses.

On your chart, indicate whether your test subject correctly identified each flavor.

Now repeat the process with the test subject's nose un-pinched.

Record results on the chart.

Food/Flavor	Subject 1- no smell	Subject 1- with smell	S2- no smell	S2- with smell	S3- no smell	S3- with smell