Nonfiction Read & Write Booklets
Human Body

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During the time I was a Scholastic editor, a large part of my job was finding out from primary-grade teachers what materials would be most useful to them in the classroom. Over the years second- and third-grade teachers spoke of the growing need for the following:

- engaging nonfiction texts that tie in to the curriculum
- more opportunities to engage students in meaningful writing (including nonfiction writing)
- writing prompts that connect to texts and build higher-order thinking skills

*Nonfiction Read & Write Booklets: Human Body* delivers each of these valuable components in an interactive mini-book format. The ten booklets cover key topics about the human body and engage students with lively text, thought-provoking writing prompts, and opportunities to draw. Best of all, when students are finished, they’ll have a unique, personalized book to take home and share. The sense of ownership and accomplishment that comes with completing these mini-books is highly motivating.

Each booklet is filled with a variety of nonfiction features and structures to help students learn to navigate informational text. They’ll learn key concepts from reading charts, webs, and diagrams. In addition, each mini-book presents students with opportunities to write informational text. After reading a chart, diagram, or short passage, students are asked to infer, evaluate, apply, analyze, compare, explain, or summarize. As a result, children develop critical-thinking skills and gain a deeper understanding of each topic.

Once students have completed their booklets and shared them with classmates, encourage them to share their work with family members. When children share their writing with others, they gain confidence as writers and become more motivated to write. The repeated readings also help children develop fluency. Sending the books home provides families with opportunities to observe and support their children’s literacy development as well as discover what topics they are learning about in school.

With these interactive booklets in hand, children reflect upon what they are reading, think critically, develop their own ideas, and express themselves in writing. *Nonfiction Read & Write Booklets* provide an engaging format for helping students comprehend the features of nonfiction and for satisfying their curiosity about the world around them.

### Why Teach Nonfiction?

Research has provided insight into the importance of teaching nonfiction. Here are some key findings:

- Informational text helps students build knowledge of the world around them (e.g., Anderson & Guthrie, 1999; Duke & Kays, 1998, as cited in Duke & Bennett-Armistead, 2003). This can potentially deepen students’ comprehension of subsequent texts (e.g., Wilson & Anderson, 1986, as cited in Duke & Bennett-Armistead, 2003).
- Many students struggle with content area reading (Vacca, 2002; Walpole, 1998, as cited in Kristo and Bamford, 2004). Providing students with high-quality nonfiction materials may help to better prepare them to meet these challenges.
- Studies have shown that some students prefer nonfiction to fiction (Donovan, Smolkin, and Lomax, 2000; Caswell and Duke, 1998, as cited in Boynton and Blevins, 2004). Including...
more nonfiction materials in your classroom instruction taps into these students’ interests and may increase their level of motivation.

- Providing students in the lower grades with more exposure to nonfiction may alleviate the decline in achievement often observed in fourth grade (Chall, Jacobs, and Baldwin, 1990; Duke, 2000, as cited in Boynton and Blevins, 2005).
- Exposing students in the early grades to informational texts helps improve their skills as readers and writers of informational text when they are older (Papps, 1991; Sanacore, 1991, as cited in Kristo and Bamford, 2004).
- Teaching students to read nonfiction will give them real-world skills and prepare them for the materials they’ll read outside of school. One study found that the text on the World Wide Web is 96 percent expository (Kamil & Lane, 1998, as cited in Duke & Bennett-Armistead, 2003). Students will encounter informational text not only on the Web but also all around them—it’s essential that they have the tools to comprehend it.

**Connections to the Standards**

These books are designed to support you in meeting the following standards outlined by Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL), an organization that collects and synthesizes national and state standards.

**Reading**

— Uses the general skills and strategies of the reading process, including:
  - Uses meaning clues such as picture captions, title, cover, and headings to aid comprehension.
— Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of informational texts, including:
  - Understands the main idea and supporting details of simple expository information.
  - Relates new information to prior knowledge and experience.
  - Uses text organizers (e.g., headings, topic and summary sentences, graphic features, typeface) to determine the main ideas and to locate information in a text.
  - Understands structural patterns or organization in informational texts (e.g., chronological, logical, or sequential order; compare-and-contrast; cause-and-effect; proposition and support).

**Writing**

— Uses the general skills and strategies of the writing process.
— Uses the stylistic and rhetorical aspects of writing.
— Uses grammatical and mechanical conventions in written compositions.

**Health**

— Knows how to maintain and promote personal health.
  - Knows basic personal hygiene habits required to maintain health.
  - Understands the influence of rest, food choices, exercise, and sleep on a person’s well-being.
  - Knows the basic structure and functions of the human body systems.
— Understands essential concepts about nutrition and diet.

How to Use This Book

These booklets can be completed during class or as homework. Before students begin, walk them through each page so that they clearly understand how to respond to the writing prompts and how to read any challenging text features, such as charts or diagrams. If students need additional support, guide them as they work on a section of a booklet. You might have students complete a booklet over the course of several days, working on a few pages at a time.

Activate Prior Knowledge
Introduce each booklet with a discussion that activates students’ prior knowledge. Ask students what they know about the topic, what they think they’ll learn about the topic from the booklet, and what they would like to learn about the topic.

Walk Through the Booklet
After introducing the booklet and discussing the topic, walk through the pages together to satisfy children’s curiosity and clarify the instructions. Point out the writing and drawing prompts and explain to students that although everyone is starting with the same booklet, they will each have a unique book when they are finished.

Read, Write, Draw, and Learn
Read and discuss the text together, pointing out vocabulary words and raising questions. Then move on to the accompanying writing and drawing prompts. Generate possible answers with students. Encourage students to write in complete sentences. Talk about what they learned from a particular section. Were they surprised about something they learned? Do they want to know more about a topic?

Share
At various points in the bookmaking process, have students share their written responses with their classmates. Draw attention to the similarities and differences in their responses. Be sure to send the booklets home for students to share with families.

Extend Learning
On pages 7–8, you’ll find two extension activities for each booklet. These will reinforce concepts covered in the books and explore a particular topic in more depth.

How to Assemble the Booklets

It works well to assemble the booklets together as a class.

Directions:
1. Carefully remove the perforated pages from the book.
2. Make double-sided copies of each page on standard 8½- by 11-inch paper.
3. Fold each page in half along the dashed line.
4. Place the pages in numerical order and staple along the spine.

TIP: You may want to have students fill in their books before stapling them. This way the center pages will lie flat while students are writing.
Extension Activities

My Book About the Skeletal System
• Play the Boney-Hokey-Pokey! Students will love learning the names of bones with this clever song, found in Bonz Inside-Out! by Byron Glaser & Sandra Higashi (Harry N. Abrams, 2003).
• Discuss the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates. Then create a visual chart of vertebrates (such as humans, monkeys, birds, and frogs) and invertebrates (such as turtles, scorpions, lobsters, and beetles).

My Book About Muscles
• Create a three-way Venn diagram that compares three types of muscles. Have students refer to the chart on page 1 of the booklet and place various pieces of information on the Venn diagram.
• Create a muscle movement chart. Have students share their list of activities that the flexors, orbicularis oris, and soleus muscles allow them to do (page 4 of the booklet). Record the responses on a chart. A wide variety of answers may coincide with the wide variety of movements for each muscle. Brainstorm additional activities if necessary. Invite students to add more muscles to the chart for further exploration.

My Book About the Heart and Circulation
• Have students stand still and feel their own heartbeat. Then have them do ten jumping jacks and feel their heartbeat again. What did they notice? Discuss the results. Explain that their bodies need more oxygen when they exercise. The heart pumps faster so that it can deliver more blood and oxygen to the muscles.
• Fill one-quart jars with water to compare how much blood is in each of the following: a baby (one quart), a child (three quarts), and an adult (five quarts). If you don’t have jars, simply create a visual chart or a pictograph with this information.

My Book About the Brain and Nervous System
• How heavy does a three-pound brain feel? Bring in a variety of fruits and vegetables and a scale. Have volunteers add and subtract items to and from the scale until they get to three pounds.
• Invite students to write about a favorite memory. Remind them that the brain stores our memories. Allow time for students to share their memories with the class.

My Book About the Digestive System
• Use various forms of measurement to demonstrate the length of the small intestines (13–16 feet) and large intestines (five feet). For example, you might have students cut lengths of string or line up books or other objects to show these lengths. Create a chart depicting the results.
• Show how the esophagus works. Squeeze a new tube of toothpaste over a plate to show how the esophagus squeezes its muscular walls to push food down into the stomach.

My Book About the Respiratory System
• Compare the temperature of inhaled air and exhaled air. Have students take a deep breath and blow the air into their cupped hands. Can students explain why the air they exhaled is warmer than the air they inhaled?
• Use the information presented on page 6 of the booklet to create a breathing chart. Label the rows “Breathe In” and “Breathe Out.” Label the columns “Rib Cage” and “Diaphragm.” Invite students to refer to page 6 of their booklets and provide the correct information for each box.

My Book About the Five Senses
• To make students more aware of their senses, create a class senses chart for students to fill in over the course of several days. On one axis of the chart, write each child’s name. On the other axis, write each of the five senses. Students fill in the chart with objects around the classroom that they see, hear, feel, taste, and smell.

• Create a five senses bulletin board. Compile students’ responses from the writing exercise on page 2. Have students share their responses, one sense at a time, while you record them on a large sheet of chart paper. When responses for all five senses have been recorded, transfer the pages to a bulletin board. Invite students to draw pictures that accompany the responses.

My Book About Teeth
• Have students write about the first time they lost a tooth. Where were they? How did they feel? How did family members react? Invite students to share their stories with one another and compare experiences.

• Have students choose an animal whose teeth they would like to research. How are the animal’s teeth similar to and different from their own? Students can present the information on a chart or Venn diagram.

My Book About Skin
• Ask students to study the ridges on their fingers that make fingerprints. Do they know what the ridges are for? Record their responses

on a chart. Then hand out two pieces of tape each to students and ask them to wrap the tape around the thumb and index finger of the same hand. Place a plastic chip or coin on the desk in front of each child. Invite students to pick up the object with their tape-covered fingers. Ask if it is harder or easier to pick up the object with the taped fingers. Have students take off the tape to pick up the object and compare the experiences.

• Convert a Venn diagram to a paragraph. On chart paper or an overhead transparency, do a think-aloud as you convert the information on the Venn diagram on page 6 of the booklet to a paragraph.

My Book About Staying Healthy
• Have students keep a health journal for a week. Invite students to think and write about the ways that they care for their bodies and stay healthy each day. Encourage students to notice ways they can replace unhealthy habits with healthy ones.

• Create healthy-habit advertisements. Divide the class into five groups and assign each group one healthy habit, such as drinking water, washing hands, or getting a good night’s sleep. Have students work together to create a poster that advertises the habit and explains why it’s important.

Selected References
Bones of All Shapes and Sizes

Your skeleton is made up of:

• flat bones, such as the shoulder blade

• long bones, such as the thigh bone

• short bones, such as the anklebone

• sesamoid bones, such as the kneecap

• irregular bones, such as vertebrae

Why do you think a skeleton needs bones of different shapes and sizes?
A skeleton has many important jobs, you know!

1. A skeleton protects your body's organs.
2. A skeleton supports your body and holds your body's organs.
3. A skeleton helps you move in many ways. Muscles pull the bones. Attached to the bones, muscles move. Muscles are your body's muscles. They pull the bones, which allow you to move up. A skeleton helps you move your body and holds your body's organs.

Draw a picture of one or more ways you have helped make your skeleton strong this week. Then describe your picture.

A skeleton has many important jobs you know!
A Strong Skeleton Needs . . .

- A strong skeleton needs lots of calcium to keep the bones strong. Calcium is found in foods such as milk, yogurt, cheese, broccoli, beans, oranges, and canned sardines.

- A strong skeleton needs lots of exercise, such as running and jumping. Exercise makes bones strong and helps joints move easily.

- A strong skeleton needs its owner to learn how to prevent injuries like broken bones. Wear a helmet when you ride a bike and protective gear when you play sports.

Describe three of your favorite activities that you would not be able to do without the help of your skeleton.

1. __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
3. __________________________________________
Find your own collarbone. Now find your kneecap. Compare how these bones feel.

Your Skeleton

- Skull
- Hand bones
- Foot bones
- Upper arm bone
- Thigh bone
- Hip bone
- Shovel blade
- Scapula
- Collarbone (clavicle)
- Tibia
- Fibula
- Tendon
- Radius
- Ulna
- Shoulder blade
- Hip bone
- Upper arm bone
- Fibula
- Collarbone (clavicle)
- Skull

FAST FACTS

- There are 206 bones in an adult skeleton.
- The smallest bone is called the stapes. It is in your ear and is as big as a grain of rice.
- The femur is the largest bone in your body.
- Almost half of all your bones are in your hands and feet.
- Joints are the places where your bones meet.
- Joints help you bend and move.
- There are 206 bones in an adult skeleton.
Three Ways to Keep Your Muscles Healthy

1. Eat foods with lots of protein, like meat, fish, eggs, milk, and beans. High-protein foods help build and repair muscle.

2. Exercise regularly to keep muscles strong.

3. Warm up your muscles before you play a sport. Warm-up exercises and stretching help prevent muscle strains and pulls.

Describe ways that you keep your muscles healthy. Is there anything else you could do to keep your muscles strong? Explain your answer.
Move It!

Thanks to our muscles, we can move our bodies in hundreds of ways. Some muscles cover our skin in hundreds of ways. Some muscles cover our skin. Some muscles are found in parts of our body, like our heart and intestines. Other muscles are found in parts of our skin. These muscles are found in parts of our skin.

THREE TYPES OF MUSCLES

Skeletal muscle holds your bones together and moves your skeleton. These are the muscles that you control. They allow you to jump, smile, and hold a pencil. These are called skeletal muscles. These muscles move your bones together and move your skeleton. These muscles hold your body together.

Cardiac muscle is found only in your heart. It tightens and relaxes about 70 to 100 times per minute, causing your heart to pump blood. This muscle also moves automatically. This means that you cannot control it. It moves without you thinking about it.

Smooth muscles are found in organs such as your intestines. These muscles move automatically. This means they move without your thinking about it. These muscles move organs such as your intestines. These muscles are found in organs such as your intestines.
Muscles Help You Express Yourself!

You have more than 40 muscles in your face. These muscles allow you to show many different facial expressions. Facial expressions help us show our emotions, or feelings.

Use your face muscles to make the same expression as each face shown. Then complete each sentence.

Write a word that best describes the emotion being expressed. Then describe a situation that makes you feel that emotion.

I feel ____________________________
(emotion)

when ____________________________
(situation)

Voluntary muscles are muscles that you control. Skeletal muscle falls under this category.

Involuntary muscles are muscles that move without your thinking about it. Smooth muscle and cardiac muscle fall under this category.

How would our lives be different if we controlled our smooth and cardiac muscles the way we control our skeletal muscles?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
List activities that your flexors allow you to do.

List activities that your orbicularis oris allows you to do.

List activities that your soleus allows you to do.

You have more than 600 skeletal muscles in your body. This diagram shows some of the major muscles and how they help you move.
Have a Healthy Heart

When you are active, you are exercising your heart muscle and making it strong.

Draw a picture that shows you doing your favorite physical activity or a physical activity that you would like to try. Then describe what is happening in your picture.

My Book About the Heart and Circulation
Your heart is a strong muscle that pumps blood to the rest of your body. It never gets tired!

Your heart pumps, or beats, about 70 to 120 times per minute when you are relaxed. When you are excited, scared, or exercising, your heart beats up to about 200 times per minute.

This hardworking muscle is about the size of your fist.

Describe a time when you got a cut. Which part of the blood helped you stop bleeding?

Describe how you feel when you are sick with a cold. Which part of the blood helps you fight cold germs?
What’s in a Drop of Blood?

- white blood cells, which fight germs.
- red blood cells, which carry oxygen.
- plasma, which is a yellowish liquid made mostly of water.
- platelets, which stop cuts from bleeding too much.

Each drop of blood has...

Describe three times when your heart rate went way up. Were you frightened? Happy? Playing a sport?

1. 
2. 
3. 

Describe three times when your heart rate went way up. Were you frightened? Happy? Playing a sport?
Believe It or Not...

- If you laid out your blood vessels end to end, they would be about 62,000 miles long. They would circle Earth two times!

- It takes about 45 seconds for blood to circulate through your body. What do you think the word circulate means?

A Powerful Pump

Your heart pumps blood to all parts of your body. The blood travels through blood vessels called arteries and veins. Blood has the important job of bringing oxygen and food to all your body parts. Blood also carries away waste.

Now look up the word circulate and write the definition.

Arteries carry blood full of oxygen away from your heart and to the rest of your body.

Veins bring blood with used-up oxygen back to your heart. The heart pushes the blood back into the lungs where it will get new oxygen. Now the blood is ready to travel around your body again!
Play It Safe!

Your skull acts like a hard helmet and protects the soft brain inside. However, it is still important to wear a helmet when you ride a bike or scooter or do other activities.

Imagine you have a friend who does not want to wear a helmet when he or she rides a bike. Write a letter explaining why it’s important to wear a helmet.

Dear ________________,

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Your friend,

______________________________________________________________

by ____________________________
Your Amazing Brain

Your brain controls everything you think, feel, and do. The brain has three main parts.

1. The **cerebrum** is the largest part of the brain. It controls activities such as thinking, speaking, hearing, and smelling.
2. The **cerebellum** controls your balance and helps with movement.
3. The **brain stem** controls activities such as your heartbeat, breathing, and digestion.

The brain, spinal cord, and nerves make up the nervous system. Explain what would happen if a part of the nervous system did not work properly.

Your brain controls everything you think, feel, and do.
**The Answer Is . . .**

B. Your brain receives and sends messages from every part of your body through the spinal cord and nerves.

**Here’s how it works:**

Your brain receives messages from your body and your environment. Then your brain acts on these messages and tells other parts of the body what to do.

Messages travel to and from the brain through nerves.

The spinal cord is about half an inch thick and links the brain to the rest of the body. Nerves are attached to the spinal cord.

**Words and Phrases That Describe the Brain**

- soft
- grayish pink
- wrinkled like a walnut shell
- weighs about three pounds (for an adult)

Write a paragraph that describes what you’ve learned about the brain.
A Closer Look at the Cerebrum

The outer layer of the cerebrum is called the cerebral cortex. Different parts of the cerebral cortex do different jobs. Scientists have labeled these areas on a brain map.

Think!

How do you think your brain communicates with your arm when you want to throw a ball? Or with your mouth when you want to throw a ball? Or with your arm when you want to throw a ball? Which answer do you think is correct?

A. It's magic! Your body just knows what to do.
B. Your brain receives and sends messages through the spinal cord and nerves. Your brain communicates with every part of your body.
C. Your skull is attached to your skull, and your skull communicates with the rest of your body.

Why?
Feed Me Fiber!

You learned on page 5 that fiber helps the muscles in your intestines work better—which helps your digestive system work properly. Fiber is found in foods like beans, whole wheat bread, whole wheat pasta, apples, strawberries, cherries, some cereals, cauliflower, broccoli, and green beans.

Draw a fiber-rich meal. Then describe what foods you included in your drawing.

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

by ________________________
What is the best way to get a good balance of nutrients and fiber in your diet?

Why is it important to eat a good balance of foods?

Feeding Your Body

Your body needs food to survive.

Food gives you energy.

Food allows you to grow.

Food allows you to gain weight.

It needs to keep you warm.

Feeding Your Body

Your body needs food to survive.
A Good, Balanced Diet

Our bodies get fiber and nutrients from food.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Where It Is Found</th>
<th>What It Does</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fiber</td>
<td>whole wheat bread, fruits, vegetables</td>
<td>helps the muscles in your intestines work better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>protein</td>
<td>fish, meat, eggs</td>
<td>helps your body grow and repair itself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carbs</td>
<td>pasta, breads, beans</td>
<td>give your body energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fats</td>
<td>cheese, nuts, fish</td>
<td>give your body energy and help keep you warm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vitamins</td>
<td>fruits, vegetables</td>
<td>help your cells work well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>minerals</td>
<td>fruits, vegetables, milk</td>
<td>help your cells work well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>water</td>
<td>water, other liquids, food</td>
<td>carries nutrients into cells and keeps your body cool when you sweat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The digestive system includes four body parts:

1. mouth
2. esophagus
3. stomach
4. intestines

In which body part do you think digestion begins? Explain your answer.
Describe what happened to the breakfast, lunch, or snack that you ate today.

Digestion Begins

1. In the mouth, teeth tear and chew the food. Saliva softens the food, making it easier to swallow. The tongue helps push the food down the throat to the esophagus.

2. The esophagus is a muscular tube that squeezes food down to the stomach.

3. The stomach is a muscular tube that mixes the food with digestive juices. After a few hours, the chunks of food turn into a thick liquid called chyme.

4. Every few minutes, the stomach lets out small amounts of chyme into the small intestine. Digestion is completed here. The parts of the food that the body can use move into the bloodstream. The parts of the food that the body cannot use are called waste. Waste is stored at the end of the large intestine. It passes out of the body when you use the bathroom.

5. The parts of the food that enter the bloodstream are converted into body energy. This energy is used by the body to grow and function.
Breathe Hard!
You breathe harder and faster when you are active. That’s because your muscles start to run low on oxygen. Hard, fast breathing quickly gets oxygen to your muscles.

Draw a picture that shows you being active. Describe your picture and the way your body feels when you do this activity.
Oxygen: Oxygen is a gas in the air that your body needs to live. Your body uses oxygen to turn food into energy. Every time you breathe in, you bring oxygen into your body. Every time you breathe out, you get rid of a waste gas called carbon dioxide. This process is called respiration.

**What’s in the Air We Breathe?**

Oxygen

**Here’s How It Works:**

- **Breathing In**
  - Your diaphragm moves down.
  - Your rib cage moves upward and outward.
  - Now there is lots of room for the lungs to fill with air.

- **Breathing Out**
  - Your diaphragm moves upward.
  - Your rib cage moves downward and inward.
  - Now there is less room in the chest, and air is squeezed out of the lungs.
The Muscles Behind Breathing

Lungs are not made of muscle. They are delicate and spongy. They need the strong **diaphragm** and rib muscles to make breathing possible. The diaphragm is below the lungs. The rib cage surrounds the lungs.

Put your hands on your stomach and take a deep breath. Describe what your stomach does when you breathe in. Then explain what makes this happen.

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Put your hands on your stomach, take a deep breath, and then breathe out. Describe what your stomach does when you breathe out. Then explain what makes this happen.

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How Do We Breathe?

The respiratory system includes the lungs, air passages, and breathing muscles. Read the diagram to learn how air travels through your body.

1. Air enters your nasal cavity, the air is warmed, cleaned, and moistened.

2. The air moves down the windpipe, or trachea.

3. The air arrives in the lungs. Blood in your lungs picks up the oxygen and carries it to the rest of your body.

Why do you think this important?

Tiny hairs and sticky mucus in your nose catch dust before it gets into your lungs.

Small tubes inside your lungs are also lined with tiny hairs and mucous to trap and push out dirt.

Tiny hairs and sticky mucus in your nose and mouth warm, clean, and moisten the air before it enters your body.

The respiratory system includes the lungs, air passages, and breathing muscles. Read the diagram to learn how air travels through your body.
Senses at Work

Think about an activity that you love to do, such as drawing, riding your bike, or playing a sport. Draw a picture that shows you doing that activity. Then describe how you use your senses when you do the activity. How many senses do you use?
Taste buds are not the tiny bumps you can see on your tongue. Those are called papillae. Taste buds are not the tiny bumps you can see on your tongue. Those are called papillae. Taste buds are mostly found on the papillae but are too small to see. The tongue has about 10,000 taste buds.

Skin is the largest organ.

### The Five Senses

- **Sight:** eyes
- **Sound:** ears
- **Touch:** skin
- **Smell:** nose
- **Taste:** tongue

Each sense organ sends messages about the world to our brain with special nerve cells called receptors. This possible? Our sense organs: the eyes, ears, nose, tongue, and skin. Each sense organ helps us to see our friends, hear a guitar, smell cookies baking, taste a crisp apple, and feel a warm breeze.
Did You Know . . . ?

Most of the eyeball is hidden in your skull.

As you get older, your sense of smell gets worse.

The ear cleans itself. Sticky wax inside the ear traps dirt. When the wax dries up, it moves to the outside of your ear and falls out. Your ear is always making more wax.

I use my eyes to . . .

I use my ears to . . .

I use my nose to . . .

I use my tongue to . . .

I use my skin to . . .
How the Senses Work

Sight
You see something when light bounces off an object and back to your eyes. Receptors react to the light and send an image to the brain.

Hearing
You hear a sound when vibrations in the air travel deep into your ear. The vibrations cause the liquid in the inner ear to move, which makes tiny hairs move. This movement sends signals to the brain.

Smell
You smell something when tiny particles in the air enter your nose. Deep in the nose, receptors send messages about the odor to the brain.

Taste
You taste when food dissolved in saliva passes over the taste buds on your tongue. Receptors send messages to the brain.

Touch
You have receptors in the skin that detect sensations such as temperature, pain, and pressure. These receptors send messages to the brain.

Does the brain play a small role or big role in how you see, hear, smell, taste, and feel things? Explain your answer.
Caring for Your Teeth

1. Brush your teeth at least twice a day.
2. Floss to remove food that’s stuck between your teeth.
3. Eat healthy foods.
4. Go to the dentist for checkups and cleanings.

Look at your smile in the mirror. Then draw a picture of your smile in the mirror below.
They bite and chew food.

They help give your face its shape.

They help you say certain sounds (like the th sound in teeth).

Thank you, Teeth!

What do your teeth do? Read the web below to find out!

Why do we have different kinds of teeth?
**Your Changing Mouth**

Babies are born without teeth. By six or seven months, **primary teeth** (also called baby teeth) begin to come in. All 20 baby teeth are in by age 3.

Between ages 5 and 7, the baby teeth begin to fall out, one by one. The baby teeth are pushed out of the way by your **permanent teeth**.

By about age 14, you will have your full set of permanent teeth—28 in all.

Beginning at age 16, four **wisdom teeth** come in. These are the teeth in the very back of your mouth.

How many teeth have you lost so far?

---

**Different Teeth for Different Jobs**

**TYPES OF PERMANENT TEETH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teeth</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>incisors</td>
<td>These teeth have sharp, flat ends for slicing through food when you bite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>canines</td>
<td>These sharp, pointy teeth help you grip and tear food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>premolars</td>
<td>Premolars have ridges for crushing and grinding food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>molars</td>
<td>Molars are the strongest teeth. They are wider and stronger and have more ridges than premolars.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Use the diagram to write a descriptive paragraph about teeth.

**What's in a Tooth?**

- **The Crown** is the part of the tooth you can see above the gum.
- **The Root** is the part of the tooth below the gum.
- **Nerves** send messages to the brain about what the tooth is feeling.
- **Blood vessels** bring nutrients and blood to the tooth and keep it healthy.
- **The Jawbone** is where the root of the tooth is held in place.

**The Pulp** is where:

- the nerve endings are found and blood vessels are located.
- the pulp sends messages to the brain about the tooth.

**Enamel** is a hard and shiny substance that covers the crown of the tooth.

**Dentin** is a hard material that makes up much of the tooth. It protects the pulp in the center of the tooth.

**Pulp** is what the tooth is feeling.
Super Sunscreen

The best way to care for your skin is to wear sunscreen. Sunscreen actually helps block the harmful rays of the sun from burning and damaging your skin.

Imagine you created a new brand of sunscreen. Give it a name and write an advertisement for your sunscreen. Describe its color, smell, and protective powers. Then draw a label for the bottle.
Six Super Ways
Skin Protects You

1. Skin protects the body from outside elements.
2. Skin is waterproof and stops water from soaking into the body.
3. Skin helps control your body temperature.
4. Skin produces melanin, which protects skin cells from harmful sun rays.
5. Skin allows you to feel sensations such as heat, coolness, smoothness, roughness, softness, and hardness.
6. Skin protects your inside organs from outside elements.

When you are too hot...
- Sweat glands in the skin release sweat onto the skin's surface. As the sweat dries, you feel cooler.
- Blood vessels in the skin widen to bring heat to the surface of your body.
- Hairs lie flat on your skin to prevent the trapping of warm air near your skin.
- Blood vessels get narrow, which keeps you warmer inside.

When you are too cold...
- Sweat glands do not release sweat.
- Blood vessels in the skin release sweat onto the skin's surface to trap warm air near your skin.
- Hairs stand up on your skin to trap warm air near your skin.
- As the sweat dries, you feel cooler.

Describe a time when you were very hot or very cold. How did your body react?
Temperature Control

Did you know that your body temperature stays at about 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit no matter what the air is like around you? If your body temperature gets too high or low, you could become sick. The skin is the organ that helps keep your body at about the same temperature.

Were you surprised to learn about all the ways that skin protects you?

____________________________________

Explain your answer.

____________________________________

____________________________________

____________________________________

Look closely at the skin on your arm. What do you see? Draw a detailed picture showing what it looks like.
A Closer Look at Skin

Use this diagram to write a paragraph about skin.

Skin cells, which flake away, are always replacing dead skin cells. New skin cells layer of skin is covered with sweat glands, which produce sweat. Sweat helps keep the body cool.

The dermis layer contains hair follicles, sweat glands, blood vessels, and sensory receptors.

The fat layer helps keep you warm.

Hair grows through the hair follicles. The hairs grow in.

The surface of the epidermis layer is covered with dead skin cells. New skin cells layer of skin is covered with sweat glands, which produce sweat. Sweat helps keep the body cool.

The epidermis layer contains hair follicles, sweat glands, and sensory receptors.

Sweat comes out of the sweat pores in the epidermis.

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Hi, Doc!

Doctors are trained to give checkups and make sure our bodies are working as they should. They also help us get healthy again when we become sick.

Write a letter to a friend explaining why it’s important to go to the doctor. Include some other tips about staying healthy that you learned in this book.

Dear ______________,

_____________________

_____________________

_____________________

_____________________

Sincerely,

_____________________

by ___________________________________
Five Ways to Stay Healthy
Here are five ways to give your body what it needs!

1. Drinking water
2. Eating healthy food
3. Sleeping
4. Exercising
5. Bathing

Write about what things you did this week that helped you stay healthy.

Explain why washing your hands is the best way to stop germs from spreading.

1. After you go to the bathroom
2. After you blow your nose or cough into your hands
3. Before you eat
4. Before you help prepare a meal and touch food
5. After playing outside
6. After touching a pet

Keeping your body clean can help stop germs from spreading.

Cleanup Time

Here are the important times to lather up:

1. After you go to the bathroom
2. After you blow your nose or cough into your hands
3. Before you eat
4. Before you help prepare a meal and touch food
5. After playing outside
6. After touching a pet

Nonfiction Read & Write Booklets: Human Body © Alyse Sweeney, Scholastic Teaching Resources
More Water, Please!

Your body needs water to live and work well. If your body does not get enough water, it becomes dehydrated. This condition can be dangerous.

How to Tell if You Are Dehydrated

1. You feel very thirsty.
2. You feel very tired even if you’ve been getting enough sleep.
3. You go to the bathroom once or twice a day instead of five or six times a day.

How to Keep From Getting Dehydrated

1. Drink six to eight glasses of water each day.
2. You can also get lots of water from foods such as grapes, oranges, lettuce, and celery.
3. If you play outside on a hot day, stop for water breaks and for rest in the shade.

Get Moving!

Did you know that you probably exercise without even knowing it? Just being active is a way to exercise. That means that every time you play a sport, jump rope, ride a bike, play tag, play hopscotch, or build a snowman you are exercising. Being active helps your body stay strong. Here’s how:

- Exercise makes your heart stronger.
- Exercise makes your muscles stronger.
- Exercise makes you flexible.
- Exercise makes you feel energized.

What are your favorite ways to be active?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Food gives your body energy. The healthier the food you eat, the more energy you will have. A balanced diet includes foods from each group.

1. Go to bed at the same time every night.
2. Do something relaxing before bed, such as taking a bath or reading a book.
3. Before going to sleep, don't eat or drink anything with caffeine.

3 Tips for a Good Night's Sleep

Good Night!

A good night's sleep keeps you healthy.

1. Sleep helps your immune system.
2. Sleep helps your brain sort and organize information better.
3. Sleep allows you to rest for the next day.

3 Tips for a Good Night's Sleep

Describe your favorite healthy meal.

A balanced diet includes foods from each group. Having a healthy diet includes foods from the food you eat, the more energy you will give your body energy. The healthier food gives your body energy.

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