Science: Animal Senses

What kinds of senses do humans have? Can you list them all?

1	
2	4
3	5

What about other animals?

Animals use their perceptions and memory to guide their actions

In this lesson we'll look at how some animals use their senses in different ways. Remember, they have the same senses that we do, but they can do things that people can't!

Echolocation

Bats and some other animals use something called echolocation to navigate. Watch this video about echolocation.

Animals use their ears, voice and echos to create a map that allows them to "see" in the dark.

We know sound moves in waves, when waves bounce off an object it is called an echo.

Bats use the echo and the wave lengths to sense how far an object is.

UV Sensors

To understand UV sensors we must first know what UV stands for, it stands for **u**ltra**v**iolet.

Butterflies, reindeer, scorpions and bees are all examples of animals that use ultraviolet sensors.

This is how a bee sees the world.

Human vision

Bee vision



Here is a video on how bees see the world: <u>How Bees Can See the Invisible</u>

Magnetoreception

Did you know that the Earth is one big magnet?

Just like a magnet there is a negative side and a positive side. Some animals can see this magnetic pull and use it to navigate.

Birds use this magnetic field to fly south in the winter and fly back north for summer. Watch this video: <u>How Do Birds Know Where To Go When They</u> <u>Migrate?</u>

Infrared Sensing

Infrared sensing is the ability to detect warm blooded animals.

Examples of infrared sensing animals are:

- vampire bats
- snakes
- mosquitoes

Watch this video: See Like a Snake!

Your Task: If you could add one of these "animal super senses" to your own five senses, which would it be and why?

Give at least three reasons why you would want this new sense.