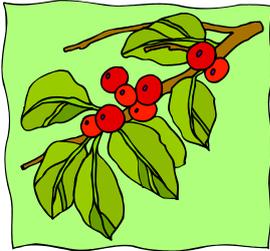


## A Feast for the Senses

### Colourful Berries

Once the shrub is grown, one idea you might try is to string a number of beads of different colours, and hang them in the shrub/tree. The children can count how many of each colour they can see easily. They can then begin to discuss why it is that some berries are so brightly coloured. (Attracting birds, etc., which eat them and then distribute the seed.)



**SENSORY BOXES** Sensory exploration is a vital part of personal development, particularly in foundation and key stage 1. Sensory boxes could be made and attached to the fence. These could include a '**feely box**', which can be loaded with things of different texture for children to feel, eg. shells, stones, pinecones, etc

A '**smelly box**' could be primed with different smells. Just soak a rag or cotton wool in whatever you wish and place inside the box. You might need to make this lockable, if using chemicals. Holes can be drilled into the front for children to sniff at.



A '**taste box**' is a little more difficult, but has been done. You can buy them commercially for £105. ([www.outdoorclassrooms.co.uk](http://www.outdoorclassrooms.co.uk)) You can provide a "taste" sensation by filling a taste-box with crushed garlic. The properties of garlic mean that it can be tasted in the mouth just by smelling.



'**Look**', '**Listen**', '**Touch and Feel**' and '**Up and Down**' signs can also be made or purchased, (at a huge cost!)

Always use naturally durable species of timber to eliminate the need for any chemical preservative treatment.

A quick coat of linseed oil every autumn is all that is needed to keep your boxes in tip-top condition.