








## The Sensory Systems

System	Location	Function
<p><b>Tactile (touch)</b></p> 	<p><b>Skin</b> – Many cells respond to light and deep touch all over the body. Most receptors for touch are in the mouth and hands.</p>	<p>Provides information about the environment and object qualities (touch, pressure, texture, hard, soft, sharp, dull, heat, cold, pain).</p>
<p><b>Vestibular (balance)</b></p> 	<p><b>Inner ear</b> – Stimulated by head movements and input from the other senses, especially visual.</p>	<p>Provides information about where our body is in space, and whether or not we are moving. Tells us about speed and direction of movement.</p>
<p><b>Proprioceptive (body awareness)</b></p> 	<p><b>Muscles &amp; joints</b> – activated by muscle contractions and movements.</p>	<p>Provides information about where a certain body part is and how it is moving.</p>
<p><b>Visual (sight)</b></p> 	<p><b>Eye</b> – Stimulated by light.</p>	<p>Provides information about objects and persons. Helps us define boundaries as we move through space and time.</p>
<p><b>Auditory (hearing)</b></p> 	<p><b>Inner ear</b> – Stimulated by air/sound waves.</p>	<p>Provides information about sounds in the environment (loud, soft, high, low, near, far).</p>
<p><b>Gustatory (taste)</b></p> 	<p><b>Tongue</b> – Closely linked with the sense of smell.</p>	<p>Provides information about different types of taste (sweet, sour, bitter, salty, spicy).</p>
<p><b>Olfactory (smell)</b></p> 	<p><b>Nose</b> – Receptors line the inside of the nose.</p>	<p>Provides information about different types of smells (musty, acrid, putrid, flowery, pungent).</p>