

# Using Your Senses

- **What is missing?** Your students can play a very easy game that reinforces an understanding of sight. Remove an object in the classroom when students aren't able to see. Have them try to solve the mystery -- what is missing? Younger kids can play a version of the game with shapes. The teacher may ask students to find something that is round, square, triangular, etc. or have them guess something the teacher sees that has one of these shapes.
- **Original instruments.** Playing instruments they make is one of the most creative and unique ways your students can experiment with the sense of hearing. Have kids organize "bands" and design their own musical instruments. They should prepare songs to share with other class members. Will they have guitars, drums, or kazoos? Your students may choose, as long as they make the instruments themselves. For inspiration, send the class to the [Virtual Museum of Music Inventions](#). You might even consider sending pictures of the students' instruments to this online museum for display.
- **Braille.** Blind people use the system of dots called Braille to communicate, and your students are sure to find an investigation of it enlightening. The [International Braille Research Center](#) explains how blind people use Braille. The [History of Reading Codes](#) for the Blind shares the background of this system. For an explanation of the system itself, see [The Six Magic Dots of Braille](#). When you finish reading these online materials, invite your students to design their own communication system for blind people. How would they make it work? How would it differ from Braille?