

Human Senses

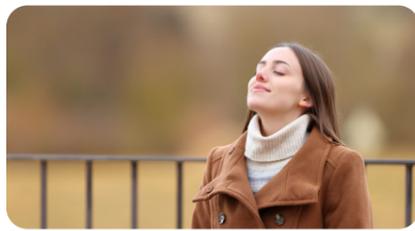
Humans

Humans are a type of animal called a mammal. Mammals have limbs, such as arms and legs, and hair or fur on their bodies. Other mammals include cats, elephants and apes.

All animals, including humans, are living things because they do the following to stay alive:



use their senses



breathe



feed



sleep



get rid of waste



grow



move

Similarities and differences

Most humans have the same body parts, such as skin, a head and limbs. Our body parts make us the same.

Humans are also different from each other. Humans can be female or male. They can be different ages, heights and skin colours. Some humans do not have every body part or have body parts that don't work well.

Other differences include:

hair type and hair colour



eye colour



nose shape

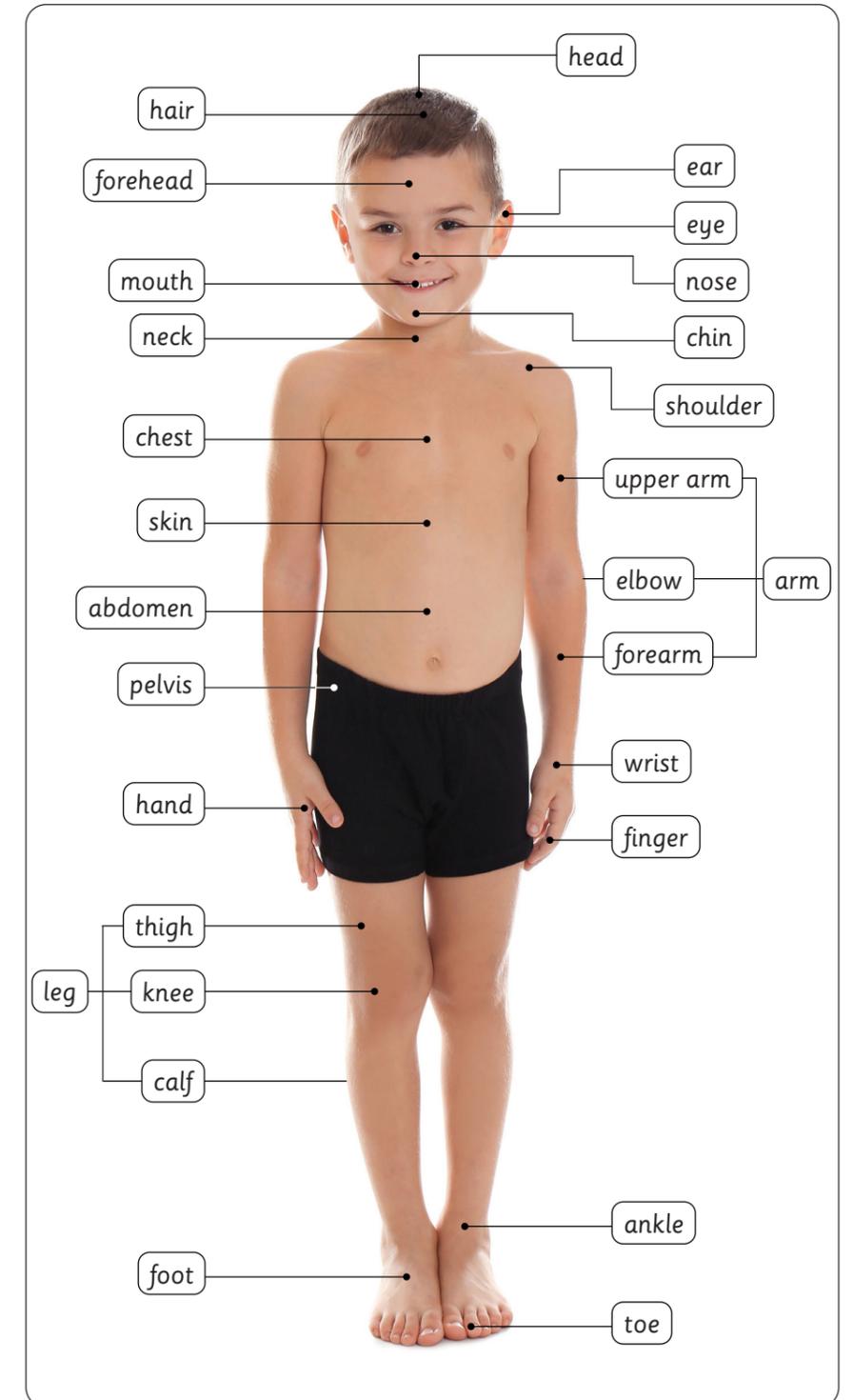


ear shape



Body parts

There are many different parts of the human body. Each body part has a function. For example, our head allows us to sense what is happening around us. Our neck supports and turns the head.



Five senses

Humans have five senses. They are sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch. We have body parts to allow us to sense our surroundings.



Eyes are used for sight. Our eyes see the things in our surroundings that are close to us and far away.



Ears are used for hearing. Our ears collect sounds around us so that we can hear. Humans can hear sounds that are quiet, loud, high and low.



The nose is used to smell. Smells enter our noses through our nostrils as we breathe.



The tongue is used to taste. Our tongues can taste different flavours.



The skin gives us our sense of touch. We can feel if something is soft or hard, smooth or rough, hot or cold.

Senses and danger

Our senses keep us safe. They can warn us if something is wrong and help identify dangers.



Seeing a fire warns us to move away to safety.



Hearing a fire engine siren warns us to move out of the way.



Smelling rotten food warns us not to eat it so that it does not make us ill.



Tasting sour milk warns us to stop drinking it so that it does not make us ill.



Feeling the heat from a campfire warns us not to get too close.

Sensory loss

Sensory loss is when one of the five senses does not work as it should. Tools and technology can help people with sensory loss.



Sign language can help people with hearing loss communicate face to face or on a computer.



Braille keyboards can help people with sight loss to type words and read them back.

Glossary

braille	A type of writing that uses bumps to feel with the fingers.
function	The purpose of something.
limb	An arm, leg, wing or flipper of an animal.
sign language	A type of communication using body movements.
siren	A device that makes a loud warning noise.

