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Humanoid Discovery activity cards for Early Childhood

The following activity cards provide **instructions** and **discussion points** for seventeen of the most appropriate activity stations in the *Humanoid Discovery* exhibition.

We recommend photocopying and laminating each card and providing them to the adult supervising each of the small groups of children visiting the exhibition.



Exhibit:	Feels Like...
Topic:	Sense of touch
Concept:	Our sense of touch helps us identify rough, smooth, hot and cold etc.
What to do:	<p>Mystery objects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feel below each box to touch object. • Can you guess what it is? • Press yellow button to check. <p>Texture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touch and compare the two surfaces <p>Pain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press finger on point of cone and increase pressure <p>Pressure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Push finger into box as far as you can <p>Temperature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touch a panel for a few seconds then touch one of the other panels
Questions to ask:	Imagine what it would be like if we didn't have a sense of touch.



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Exhibit:	Looks Like...
Topic:	Sense of sight
Concept:	Some people see colours differently to other people. Some animals see colours differently to us.
What to do:	[Note: Most of the functionalities being tested are too complex for this age group.] Colour blindness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at each circle. • What can you see? • Press button to see if you were right (If child cannot see the coloured image, they may be colour blind.) Visible spectrum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which flower picture is closest to how we see?
Questions to ask:	Did you know that some animals cannot see colour like we do?



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Exhibit:	A Wide View
Topic:	Peripheral vision
Concept:	We can see movement out of the corner of our eye.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move the pyramids to their starting points • Ask the child to sit on the seat and place their chin in the notch. • Ask the child to feel under the bench for two handles • Tell the child to look directly at the cross while moving both pyramids towards the cross • Ask the child to stop moving the pyramids when they see the pyramid
Questions to ask:	Can you sometimes see things out of the corner of your eye?



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Exhibit:	See O₂
Topic:	Respiration – movement of oxygen (and carbon dioxide) into and around the body
Concept:	We need oxygen from the air to live.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at flashing lights and see oxygen enter the body (breathe in) and move around the body in the blood vessels.
Questions to ask:	Can you see the oxygen going in the mouth then into the lungs and around the body?



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Exhibit:	Sounds Like...
Topic:	Sense of hearing
Concept:	We hear with our ears. Some low and high sounds we cannot hear, but other animals can.
What to do:	Identifying sounds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press one of the red buttons to hear a mystery sound • Guess what it is • Wait for an answer Hearing range <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put the handset to your ear • Press button to select a frequency (Most children should hear 20 – 20,000hz).
Questions to ask:	Did you know that elephants can hear the very low sounds and bats the very high sounds that we can't hear?



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Exhibit:	Have You Got the Guts
Topic:	Digestive system
Concept:	Food enters the body but needs to be made smaller so it can be used by the body.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grab the human intestine and pull it out carefully.
Questions to ask:	How long is it? How does it fit inside the body?



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Exhibit:	Tastes Like...
Topic:	Sense of taste and smell
Concept:	We smell with our nose and taste with our tongue.
What to do:	<p>Smell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place nose near sniffing hole and press button to get smell • Guess the smell • Press red button to check your answer <p>Taste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at each picture and guess what it would taste like • Press blue button to check your answer
Questions to ask:	<p>What do you taste with?</p> <p>What do you smell with?</p>



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Exhibit:	Aim High
Topic:	Muscular system
Concept:	We use our leg muscles to jump.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand on footprints. • Jump as high as you can to touch the wall above. • Try crouching down before you jump.
Questions to ask:	<p>How high can you jump?</p> <p>Can you jump higher if you crouch down first?</p>



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Exhibit:	Pull My Finger
Topic:	Digestive system
Concept:	Different combinations of foods, drinks and condition can have an effect on what comes out of the digestive system i.e. burps, farts and vomit.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose a food, drink and condition by pressing arrows • Pull finger • Listen to stomach sounds then reaction (Try combination of baked beans, milk and lactose intolerance to get a really loud fart and smoke coming out of the bottom of the exhibit! Or ginger, saltwater and seasickness for a vomit!)
Questions to ask:	



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Exhibit:	Skin Deep
Topic	Skin and layers of tissue in body
Concept:	The skin and tissue has many layers.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carefully lift the layers of skin off the giant arm.
Questions to ask:	<p>Can you see the small blood vessels (capillaries) in the 2nd layer (epidermis)?</p> <p>Can you see the fatty tissue and larger blood vessels in the 3rd layer?</p> <p>Can you see the muscles and two bones in the last layer?</p>



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Exhibit:	Filter and Flush
Topic:	Excretory system – movement of blood into kidneys and production of urine then emptying of bladder
Concept:	Kidneys filter blood to remove waste products which are then removed from body
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pump heart button to move blood through kidneys (listen to heart beating). • Watch bladder fill. • Press empty button to see and hear bladder empty into toilet.
Questions to ask:	Can you hear the heart pumping the blood? Can you see the bladder filling with urine? What happens when the bladder is full? (Need to go to the toilet.) Listen to the person weeing and the toilet flushing.



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Exhibit:	Womb with a View
Topic:	Development of baby in womb
Concept:	A baby grows inside mother's womb.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press the start button, then select a gestation time (12, 20 weeks etc). • Move the ultrasound sensor over the mother's tummy to see the baby light up.
Questions to ask:	See how tiny the baby is. Can you hear the baby's heart beating much faster than ours?

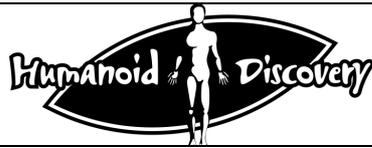


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Exhibit:	Bed of Nails
Topic:	Nerve endings
Concept:	If you stood on a single nail it would really hurt, but when your weight is spread over a large number of nails it doesn't.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lie on back on bed of nails • Pull handle towards you to raise nails. • Release handle to lower nails
Questions to ask:	Why don't the nails hurt? (Pressure spread over large area)
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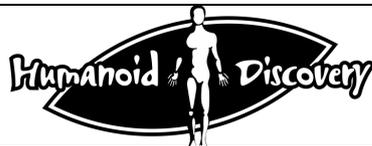


	
Exhibit:	Pupil Shrinker
Topic:	Sense of sight
Concept:	Pupils shrink so that not so much light gets in.
What to do:	<p>Ask the child to look through the viewing window and look at the black circle (pupil) in the middle of his/her eye.</p> <p>Let their eyes adjust to the low light, then press the button to switch on the light.</p>
Questions to ask:	What happens to their pupil?
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Exhibit:	Remember When....
Topic:	Memory
Concept:	Some things are easier to remember than others.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press the button below the green panel to light up mystery items as pictures. • Try to remember as many as possible before the light goes off. • Try the other panels of words and numbers (although for non-readers this will be too difficult)
Questions to ask:	<p>Which pictures can you remember? Is it easier if you say the names of the pictures out loud while you are looking at them?</p>
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Exhibit:	Insides Out
Topic:	Body systems
Concept:	Our bodies are made up of lots of systems that make the body function. Systems work together.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit on stool • Press start button. • Put your head in front of screen so it appears at top of body. • Move red track ball to move purple arrow then press 'select' to see different systems.
Questions to ask:	Look at skeleton, heart, muscles etc.
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Exhibit:	Finger on the Pulse
Topic:	Heart rate – function of the heart
Concept:	Your heart pumps faster when you exercise.
What to do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sit on the stool• Grip both handles for at least 15 sec to display heart rate. (Normal adult heart rate 60-100bpm – children usually faster)• Then turn exercise wheel as fast as you can for 30 sec.• Retest heart rate
Questions to ask:	Why do you think the heart is beating faster after exercise?



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