

# The Sensational Years

## Setting the Scene

Explain to your learners that we are about to look back over many years. Search *Audio Networks* or online for a piece of music called *Time Travel* to play in the background as your learners participate in this activity.

## What to Do

Use these items to make up a **Stepping Back in Time** sensory box. You can enhance any theme using sensory boxes. You can use sensory boxes:

- with individuals or small groups;
- to work on individual targets linked to your theme;
- to enhance the other activities; and
- to provide each learner with as much access as possible to the theme.

Use **Resource 7: Step Back in Time through the Decades** to introduce each sensory item to your learners.

## Decades Pick 'n' Mix

You can do this activity in a group situation. Prepare the activities using **Resource 8: Decades Pick 'n' Mix** before starting the lesson. Give each learner the opportunity to choose the activity he or she wants to do.

## Further Suggestions

### Personalised sensory books

Use a range of textures, colours and materials to create an individualised book for each learner. Include photographs you have taken throughout the theme and incorporate these into a story or diary about Stepping Back in Time.

### Sensory board

Collect a variety of items that evoke the decades your learners have encountered. For example:

- Old CDs
- Old vinyl records (you can find LPs or singles in charity shops)
- Small mirrors of different shapes and sizes
- Selection of textured squares, for example blue suede, psychedelic fabric, sequined or holographic fabric, attached to a spring key ring so that learners can try it on
- Battery-powered push button wall light stuck on a black silhouette cut out of one of The Beatles
- White or silver glove attached to a spring key ring so learners can try it on

Attach these to a large piece of plywood or chipboard with rounded edges. Support your learners to explore each item.

## Areas of Learning

### Primary

Personal Development and Mutual Understanding  
Mathematics and Numeracy

### Post-Primary

Personal Development  
Mathematics

## What You Need



**Resource 7:**  
**Step Back in Time through the Decades**



**Resource 8:**  
**Decades Pick 'n' Mix**

- Small hula hoop covered in tinsel or glitter or with bells attached
- Beatles music on a recordable device
- Floral aromatherapy oil on silk flowers
- Night Fever music
- Disco ball
- White glove
- Deely boppers
- Fluorescent leg warmers
- CDs made into a mobile
- Ultraviolet light