



A beetle's sense of smell is tremendous. The beetle uses smell to attract him to something or repel him from something. In this FACTivity, we want you to think about what scents you really like and what scents you really do not like. First, make copies of the Scent Chart, then take about 5 minutes to list some scents that you like and some scents that you do not like. Think about why you like the scent or why you do not like the scent. Does the scent remind you of something?

Or does it make you hungry? Or does it make you feel sick? After 5 minutes, share your likes and dislikes with the class. See if there are any scents that the whole class likes or the whole class dislikes. If there are such scents, why do you think the whole class feels this way about them? Also discuss why a sense of smell is important for humans and compare the use of this sense of smell for humans with the beetle's use of smell. Are there similarities? Differences?

Scent Chart

Scent	Like	Dislike	Why?
Freshly cut grass	✓		Reminds me of springtime and gardening

If you are a Project Learning Tree-trained educator, you may use PLT Pre K–8th Activity Guide #3, “Peppermint Beetles,” Activity Guide #22, “Trees As Habitats,” and Activity Guide #77,

“Trees In Trouble,” as additional activity resources. These activities show how insects use scent for communication, how insects use different parts of trees, and how trees express stress.