



MY BODY Inside and Out!



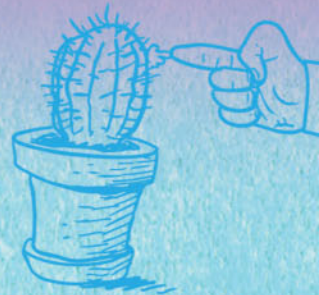
My Amazing Sense of Touch



Ruth Owen

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My Amazing Sense of Touch



by Ruth Owen

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Published in 2014 by Ruby Tuesday Books Ltd.

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Editor: Mark J. Sachner

Designer: Emma Randall

Production: John Lingham

Photo credits:

Science Photo Library: 7 (bottom); Shutterstock: Cover, 1, 4–5, 6–7, 8, 10–11, 12, 14–15, 16–17, 18–19, 20–21, 23; Superstock: 13.

Library of Congress Control Number: 2013919036

ISBN 978-1-909673-45-8

Printed and published in the United States of America

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Words shown in **bold** in the text are explained in the glossary.



Your Sense of Touch



Ouch! That cactus plant is very prickly. Mmmmmm. This puppy's fur is so soft.

Every day, your **sense** of touch brings you hundreds of different touch **sensations**.

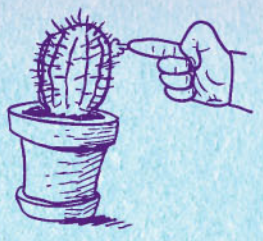
If you accidentally place your hand on something hot or sharp, you feel pain.

The pain is your body's way of keeping you safe by telling you to stop touching now!

From the tip of your nose to the bottom of your feet, your body can feel the world around it.

Just how does your sense of touch work, though? Let's check it out.





Your body has five senses, which are seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, and touching. Your senses help you enjoy your world and help keep you safe.



Your Skin Up Close



The part of your body that let's you feel the world around you is your skin.

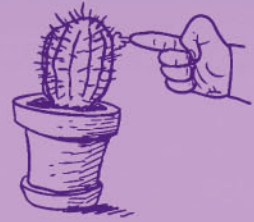
Your skin is made up of three layers.

The outside layer, which you can see, is called the **epidermis**.

Your epidermis is made of tiny **cells** called skin cells.

Inside your epidermis, new skin cells are growing all the time.

That's good news, because about 40,000 old, dead skin cells fall off your body every minute!



Some of the cells in your epidermis make a substance called **melanin**. It's melanin that gives your skin its color. People with dark skin have more melanin in their skin than people with pale skin.





Your sense of touch is spread throughout every bit of your skin.

Skin cells

This photo was created by a **microscope**. It shows the cells in the top layer of a person's skin.



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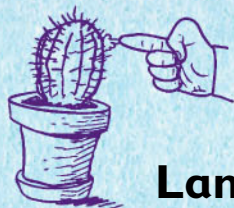
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Landau, Elaine. *The Sense of Touch (A True Book)*. Danbury, CT: Children's Press (2009).

Rissman, Rebecca. *Touching (The Five Senses)*. North Mankato, MN: Heinemann-Raintree (2010).

Learn More Online

To learn more about your sense of touch, go to
www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/mybodytouch

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My Amazing Sense of Touch

When you stroke a kitten, you feel its soft fur. When you put a forkful of scorching-hot food into your mouth, you feel a burning pain. All day, every day, your sense of touch is hard at work. Find out how your skin, nerve cells, and brain work as a team to help you feel the world around you.

Titles in this series

- My Amazing Sense of Hearing**
- My Amazing Sense of Sight**
- My Amazing Sense of Smell**
- My Amazing Sense of Taste**
- My Amazing Sense of Touch**
- What Happens When I Eat?**
- What Happens When I Grow?**
- What Happens When I Move?**
- What Happens When I Sleep?**

