

# The Development of the Senses and its Importance for Children's Learning



A talk by Gordon Woolard  
on Thursday 5th October 2023 at 7:30pm  
at Mol an Óige Steiner National School,  
Ennistymon.

Under the level of school learning, before it begins, every young child has the task to develop the senses.

There are more of them than the senses of taste, smell, vision, warmth and hearing. Some are higher than these and others lie in primal depths. As a full circle of senses they lay the ground for literacy, numeracy and for all learning.

The basic capacity to perceive oneself in a relationship with the world around .. and hence for the child to have a sense of place in the school environment .. depends upon these developments.

In practice (and it's on the increase) many children don't complete this early years task. However, the struggles with learning among school-age children prove to respond to remedy-paths that seek to complete this, their earlier phase of life.