

What Are Sensors?


Sensors have a clue in their names as to what they do. They help us “sense” the world around us. Human beings have lots of sensors in our body that help make up our senses. For example, our eyes are light sensors that can detect the colour and brightness of light, allowing us to see the world around us.

Think of some other sensors in your body and try to list them out here:

If you are really good at knowing where you are and knowing how to get where you’re going, then you might have a great sense of direction! All of these are great examples of human sensors and they help us to interact with the world in exciting ways!

Computers, phones, and other pieces of technology can also have sensors. A webcam on a computer uses specialized light sensors to capture an image, while a touch screen on a phone uses specialized touch sensors to detect what buttons are pressed.

Think of other sensors in technology and list them out here:

 Sensors in our bodies or in technology help us to collect information from the outside world and then make decisions based on that information! We could not learn without sensors.

The Inuit guiding principle of Pilimmaksarniq reminds us that we learn through our ability to observe the world around us!