



Activity Guide

Colour Afterimage

Module

Vision

Materials required

- Parachute Brain Waves presentation slides
- Projector and screen

Preparation instructions

You do not need to prepare any materials in advance for this activity.

Activity instructions

Repeat for each image:

1. Instruct participants to look at the image for one minute.
2. Remove the image by advancing to the next slide (a blank white slide)
3. Ask participants: What do you see?

Reinforce these learnings

- This experiment demonstrates the Opponent Processing Theory of Colour Vision.
- Every colour has an opposite colour. Afterimages are seen because neurons become adapted to the colour you are staring at. If you look at the image too long, the neuron gets tired and removes the block on the opposite colour when the image is removed.
- You need more than your eyes for your sense of vision to work – you need your brain! Damage to the occipital lobe of your brain can affect your vision.

Reinforce these injury prevention messages

- Protect your vision by protecting your brain! Wear your helmet, wear your seatbelt, follow safety rules, etc.
- It's also important to protect your eyes. Here's how:
 - Don't run with sharp things in your hands (like scissors).
 - Wear proper eye protection during sports and science experiments.
 - Make sure an adult is there to supervise if you are using tools.
 - Get your eyes checked regularly.