1st floor – SMELL

Smell

The sense of smell is our most immediate sense. The signals from the nose are not first directed through the logical cerebral cortex, but flow directly into the limbic system, which is responsible for emotions and drives. This is probably due to evolutionary biology, because even single-celled organisms have olfactory cells similar to receptors and can recognise substances in their medium that are harmful to them and subsequently flee.

We have about 30 million sensory cells in our nose on a piece of skin about the size of 2 euros, which have 400 different receptors for scent molecules. But it's the mixture of scent molecules that makes the difference: We can recognise about 10,000 different scents. Experienced people even more.

The sense of smell protects us from danger. It is divided into two parts for this purpose. The olfactory system is responsible for the good smells, the trigeminal-nasal system only perceives the unpleasant smells: smoke, ammonia, acids. This enables us to recognise spoiled food.

Due to the direct connection of the olfactory receptors to the emotional part of our brain, it happens that we 'can't smell' people and associate an unpleasant feeling with them. This is also evolutionary. Many people try to cover up their own smell with perfumes.

Smell is the oldest sense. We can recognise about ten thousand scents. Smell prevents us from eating dangerous or spoiled things.

The crazy farm garden

The blossoms in our Black Forest fragrance garden smell. But very different from what you think.

Let yourself be surprised.

The crazy farm garden

Flowers:

1. noble rose (Rosa)
2. lavender (Lavandula angustifolia)
3. corn poppy (Papaver rhoeas)
4. aster (Callistephus chinensis)
5. erica (Calluna vulgaris)
6. dahlia (Dahlia pompon)
7. daisy (Bellis perennis)
8. peony (Paeonia officinalis))

Scent

1. pepper
2. apple
3. orange
4. peppermint
5. cinnamon
6. vanilla
7. rosemary
8. thyme