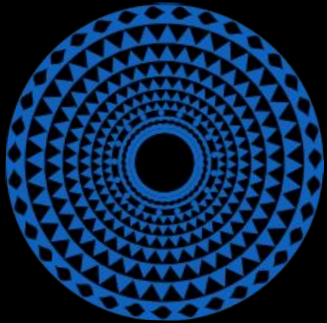
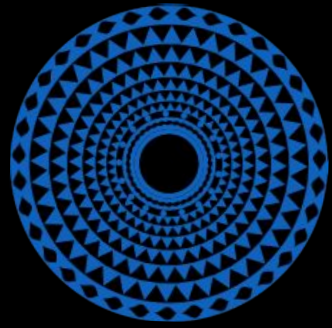


Smell walks! Collaboratively adding smell-related data using the photowalk model

Lucy Moore & Glory Onwuka

User: Lajmmoore & User:Onwuka Glory





Session goals

- Why is smell important for Wikimedia (Glory Onwuka)
- What is a smell-walk (Lucy Moore)
- Adding smell-related information to the Wikimedia ecosystem? (Lucy Moore)





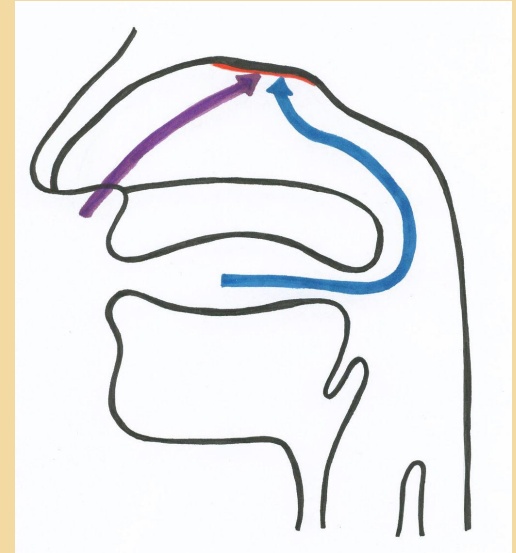
SMELL ON HUMAN HEALTH AND WELL BEING

- Smell can be referred to as olfaction. It is the sensory experience of detecting airborne chemical molecules or odours, through the nose (nostrils).
- These molecules released from substances travel through the air and are detected by olfactory receptors in the nasal cavity, which send signals to the brain for interpretation.
- Smells are perceived by both humans and few animals.
- Smell can be identified with the words like “odour”, “scent”, “aroma”, or “stench”.



How do we smell?

- It is sensed when chemical molecules in the air are detected by a person or animal.
- These molecules can be released by solid and liquid substances over time and spread out into the air.



[Weg der orthonasalen und retronasalen Wahrnehmung](#) CC0



How does smell travel

- How a substance smells depends on the chemicals that it releases into the air.
- Some substances can be perceived as having a stronger, or more intense smell than others.
- This may be because they are more volatile (more of their molecules are released into the air) or because the olfactory system is better at detecting their molecules.





- Smell related issues are traceable to environmental degradation and deteriorating climate conditions.
- The growing rate of environmental degradation and deteriorating climate conditions have become a turbulent challenge to humanity; specifically to Wikimedians globally.
- Such worrisome situations are by accelerated heat, drought, flooding, erosion, and wild fires; which impact air quality and ecosystems.





SIGNIFICANT IMPACT OF SMELL IN HUMAN BODY

1. Mild discomfort, to more serious symptoms.
2. Some chemicals with strong smell may cause eye, nose, throat or lung irritation.
3. Strong smell may cause some people to feel a burning sensation that leads to coughing, wheezing or other breathing problems.
4. People who smell strong odours may get headaches or feel dizzy or nauseous.
5. If a smell lasts a long time or keeps occurring, it also could affect mood, anxiety and stress level.
6. It can as well degenerate to lungs cancer.

REASONS FOR THIS WORKSHOP & FUTURE WALKS

- Today, mankind is on the siege of health malignant and too busy to look after their health and healthy living; specifically on what they breath in as oxygen or smells around them.
- Some individuals are secondhand smokers of which there is increasing rate of Asthmatic and heart diseases patients all over the world. Up to 455,000 deaths and 262 million asthmatic cases have been recorded recently (W.H.O, 2024)
- The researchers therefore, think if Wikimedians all over the world can work in synergy by recording smell related information within our environment on Wikidata, the problem could be solved.





Why do one?

To investigate your town/city from a new perspective and uncover different details

To explore the importance of context and place to smell perception

To understand the world through a different sense (be more like other smell-centric animals)

~ Kate Maclean, author of [The Smelfie Kit](#)



Image: [Good for you, you can't smell those durians ! #yoursingapore](#) by [Voyages etc...](#)



What is a smell walk?

“Nose-first”

A smell walk is a journey that is led by the sense of smell, not sight.

[Her Community Walk a thon pictures gotten from the of Onitsha](#) CC BY SA - Image: [Onyinyeonuoha](#)





What is important on a smell walk?

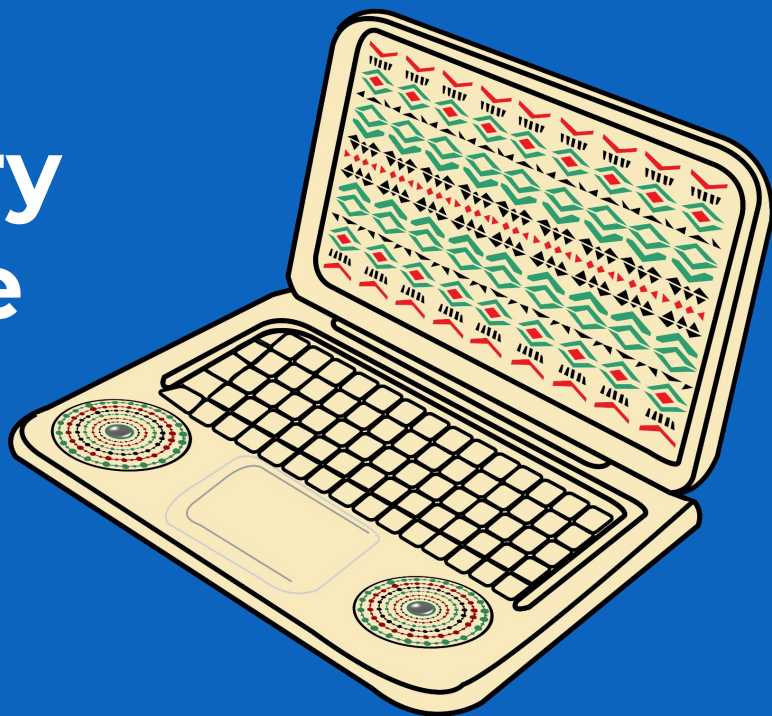
- Consequently, as we walk out let us be intentional on things within our environment that have smell.
- The perceived smells could be pleasant, fruity, alcohol, tobacco, fragrance, and enjoyable or bad, foul, sour, dusty and harmful chemicals (sucrose, sodium, chloride, citric acid, quinine, hydrochloride).
- Watch out for grasses, trees, flowers, dump site, drainage, soakaway, gutter, lake, river, bushes, shrubs; and others.

[Borough Market, London 2015](#) by Chris Brown
CC BY SA 2.0





Three tasks for every smell-related image



1. File name and description



Summary [edit]

Description	English: Wild garlic smelling strongly of garlic in Middleton Woods
Date	4 May 2025 (from Exif)
Source	Own work
Author	Lajmmoore
Camera location	 53° 45′ 41.04″ N, 1° 33′ 08.59″ W  View this and other nearby images on: O

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Highly_fragrant_wild_garlic_in_Middleton_Woods.jpg



2. Categories

Category:Petrichor

[Help](#)

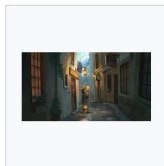
[Category](#) [Discussion](#)

[Read](#) [Edit](#) [View history](#) [☆](#)

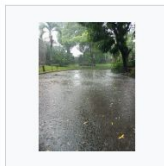
Media in category "Petrichor"



The following 2 files are in this category, out of 2 total.



2023-01-09 The-after-rain-smell by-David-Revoy.jpg
3,840 × 2,047; 2.02 MB



Petrichor.jpg
3,060 × 4,080; 6.97 MB

petrichor [\[Collapse\]](#)

earthy smell when rain falls on dry soil

[Upload media](#)

[Wikipedia](#)

Pronunciation audio



Subclass of [odor](#)

Authority file [\[Collapse\]](#)

[Q1787101](#)

[Reasonator](#) · [Scholia](#) · [Wikidocumentaries](#) · [PetScan](#) · [statistics](#) · [WikiMap](#) · [Locator tool](#) · [KML file](#) · [Search depicted](#)

Categories (+): [Rain](#) (-) ([±](#)) ([↓](#)) ([↑](#)) | [Odors](#) (-) ([±](#)) ([↓](#)) ([↑](#)) | (+)

[Non-topical/index: Uses of Wikidata Infobox](#) | [Uses of Wikidata Infobox with no image](#)

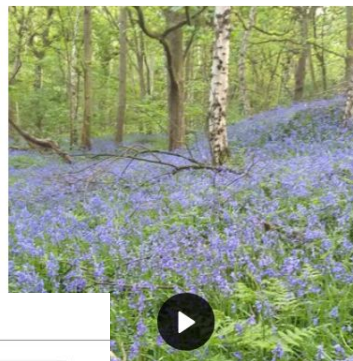
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Petrichor>

3. Structured data

File:Highly fragrant bluebells in Middleton woods.webm

File Discussion TimedText

Download Use this file Use this file Email a link Information



File information Structured data

Items portrayed in this file

Edit

depicts

Search to add items from Wikidata

Woodland Prominent

Hyacinthoides non-scripta [Mark as prominent](#)

Middleton [Mark as prominent](#)

odor [Mark as prominent](#)

[Fragrance of bluebells](#) [Mark as prominent](#)

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Highly_fragrant_bluebells_in_Middleton_woods.webm



Extra: add smell to Wikidata

[Q134283302](https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q134283302)

Fragrance of blubells (Q134283302)


Item [Discussion](#) Read [View](#)

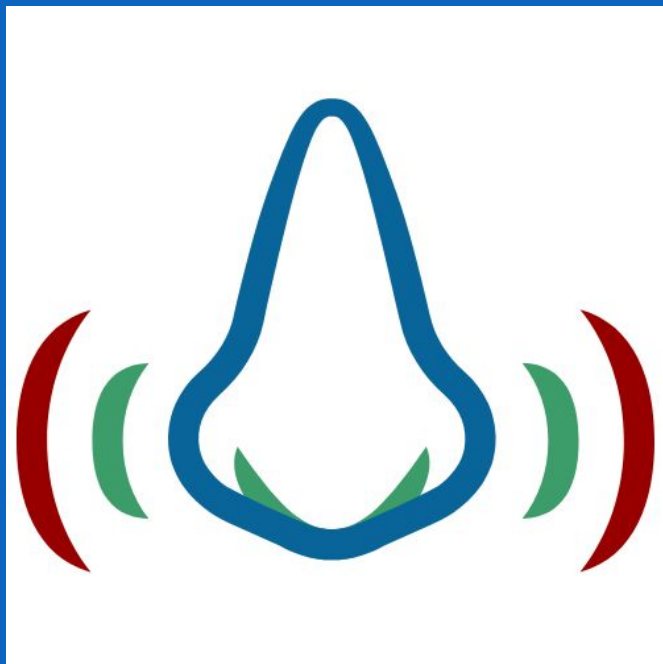
natural floral odor

- ▶ Reconcil: Most relevant properties which are absent
- ▶ In more languages

Statements

instance of	odor	edit
	▼ 1 reference	
	reference URL	https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/discover/nature/trees-plants/a-guide-to-bluebells-in-the-uk
		+ add reference
		+ add value

video		edit
-------	---	----------------------



Useful Wikidata properties to add

- instance of (P31)
- image (P18)
- has cause (P828)
- has effect (P1542)
- smells of (P5872)



Over to you

- Option 1: upload a photo that shows a smell to Commons
- Option 2: look at your existing uploads and edit in smell-related descriptions
- Option 3: go to the meta page and edit some of the suggestions there

Thank you

Sign up on the meta page, or
follow the link to the Wikidata
project

Lucy Moore & Glory Onwuka
User: Lajmmoore & User:Onwuka Glory

