/smellfie kit

: a smellwalking guide
/welcome to the smellscape

: the smellscape is the smell equivalent of a visual landscape
/urban smellscape* pyramid
: there are 3 categories of smell

1. **curious / unexpected smells** are the short-lived, individually noted smells of the city e.g. books/paper, perfume on a passer-by, metal, paint, marshmallow, old books

2. **episodic smells** reveal specific areas of town, these are localised smells e.g. wet fish, flowers, fried food, medicine

3. **background smells** form a context, these are seen as a constant e.g. canal dampness, humidity and spicy cooking aromas against which all other smells reside

*(Porteous 1985, Henshaw 2013, Quercia et al 2015)*
/urban smellscape\* pyramid

: there are 3 categories of smell

1. **curious / unexpected smells**
   – are volatile and disappear quickly;
   e.g. old books, chocolate powder

2. **episodic smells**
   – hang around for a while in a place;
   e.g. fish, flowers, fast food, metal

3. **background smells**
   – linger pervasively in space;
   e.g. humidity, canal, spicy food
/smellwalk stage 1

: smell ‘catching’ / passive smelling

• Re-focus yourself to receive smell information as your primary source; your nose replaces your eyes

• Breath deeply and note all scents that fly through your nose

• Walk slowly and record 4 smells as individual Smellnotes using the sheet on p.11 (green)
/smellwalk stage 2

: smell ‘hunting’ / active smelling

• Use your other senses to seek out smell sources. Crush leaves, sniff textured walls...

• Seek out hidden corners, the more settings you sniff, the greater the opportunities

• Record a second set of 4 further Smellnotes on the sheet on p. 11 (yellow)
/smellwalk stage 3
: ‘free’ smelling

- Choose how you prefer to explore, either Smell Catching or Smell Hunting, or a combination of both

- Complete a further 4 Smellnotes embarrassed by strange looks (orange)

- Share interesting smells with your co-smellwalkers, compare notes
/smellwalk stage 4

: decide on a ‘summary’ smell

- Look through all your recorded Smellnotes
- Select a smell that summarises the area you have just walked through and record it (red)
- If this smell was a colour, what colour would it be? Note down a colour for your smell
/smellwalk route planning

: length of walk

- You can smellwalk anywhere, start from where you are now
- Urban spaces contain a wide variety of synthetic and natural odours
- Limit your walk to 45 minutes. Sniffing and foregrounding your sense of smell is tiring
- Drink water as you go, smell needs moisture
- Sniff your own skin for relief if your nose tires
on the smellwalk, what to record

: print the next page to record smells

- Record your location, either on a map or GPS
- Without thinking too much, name the smell
- Record perceived smell intensity, duration and like/dislike on a scale of 1–7 using the dots
- Note if the smell is expected or not, and your own associations and thoughts about it
### SMELLNOTES

**City:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smell # (locate this smell on a map)</th>
<th>Name of smell</th>
<th>Smell intensity</th>
<th>Smell duration</th>
<th>Smell like/dislike</th>
<th>Expected smell?</th>
<th>Your associations. Your thoughts. Based on this particular smell...</th>
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**Smell colour:**
/but why?

& so what?

“Smell remains an under-valued and under-researched sense which possesses the capacity to induce time-travel and momentary location-displacement, translating anonymous space into personalised place.”

/please share your findings...
: happy sniffing!

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