

SAMMY SQUIRREL'S SENSATIONAL DAY



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Sammy Squirrel woke with a start as sunlight sprawled across his branchy bedroom. He blinked his bright black eyes and listened.

Far below, the park rustled with waking sounds: birds singing, leaves whispering, and someone somewhere banging a stick on a fence.

Sammy stretched his tail as high as he could and then—flop—let it fall, feeling the soft squish of his mossy pillow. Today felt like a perfect day for something new, something special: a Sensational Day where he would use all his senses to discover the dazzling secrets of the park.



First, Sammy listened. He sat still and quiet on his favorite branch and opened his squirrely ears wide. He heard a robin chirping a tune (not quite in tune), the breeze fluttering through leaves like soft music, and the steady drip, drip, drip from last night's rain off the rooftop.

When Sammy focused, he heard the grasshoppers twanging like tiny guitars, and the groan of Mr. Porcupine's hammock swinging in the sun.

"There's more to hear when you really listen," Sammy thought. He grinned, with his ears on extra alert.



Sammy hopped to the ground and smelled the world. He sniffed the dewy grass beneath his paws—so fresh and cool it tickled his nose.

He poked his head into Mrs. Goose's garden and caught a whiff of blooming violets and sweet clover. A little farther, the scent turned to baking muffins wafting from the park café. Sammy could almost taste the sugar on the air.

He gave a big snuffle and declared, "Smelling is splendid!"



Soon it was time for a snack, and Sammy wondered what the world tasted like. He nibbled a crunchy acorn—nutty and brown—and then a tart wild strawberry he'd hidden in the tree's knothole yesterday. His tongue zinged with sweet and sour, cool and crisp.

He tiptoed down the path to see if his friend Bella Bunny had any carrot squares left from breakfast. They munched together, giggling at how the carrots' crunch seemed louder than their laughter.



As the sun climbed higher, Sammy decided to use his eyes—today, he would notice every color and shape in the park. He spotted bluebells nodding under a bench, clouds drifting in funny shapes (one looked like a squirrel doing a dance), and a dragonfly zooming by so fast it was just a flash of green lightning.

He found a tiny ladybug on a blade of grass—a perfect red dot with little black boots. Sammy blinked extra hard, hoping he hadn't missed any details.



Suddenly, as he paused near the sandbox, Sammy heard a voice calling: “Sammy, want to play tag?” It was Felix Fox, bouncing in from behind a tree.

Normally, Sammy loved running, but today he said, “Let’s play the Sensational Day Game instead! Let’s see all, hear all, and taste all the things we can in the park.”

Felix’s eyes lit up. "Yes! Can we try touching everything too? I love soft grass and squishy mud."

Together, they padded across the park, seeing, hearing, smelling, and tasting whatever they found, but especially touching—soft petals, prickly pinecones, cool smooth rocks, and even Felix’s tickly tail.



For a moment, Sammy worried: with so many things to notice, would he miss the fun of zooming and zipping and zig-zagging like a regular squirrel?

Then Bella Bunny joined in, hopping gently so as not to scare the ladybug. "I can help count the smells and sounds!" she cheered.

Sammy realized that slowing down—just for a little while—gave him many new joys to share with friends.

The park was not just for running; it was filled with hidden treasures.



The trio followed the scent of clover to the pond, where they listened to the frogs and watched the sun sparkle on the water. Felix found a feather so soft it floated away when he breathed on it. Bella spotted a snail sliding by, leaving a shimmery trail.

They each took turns closing their eyes, pointing to the sky, and guessing what they heard or smelled. “A bird!” guessed Sammy.

“Fresh bread!” said Bella. “Caterpillar farts!” shouted Felix, making everyone burst into giggles.



At dusk, tired but happy, Sammy climbed to his branchy bedroom again. He wiggled his nose, sniffed the sweet evening air, listened to the cricket lullabies, and curled up under his mossy blanket.

Sammy gave his tail one last cozy pat and whispered, "The world is full of wonders—if you take time to notice."

He drifted off to sleep, dreaming of new Sensational Days, full of curious friends and hidden magic in every corner.

Before You Drift Off...

What was your favorite sense Sammy Squirrel used today? What's the silliest thing you've ever discovered by listening, smelling, or touching?

Can you use your senses right now and share something surprising or special you notice?