



SfS Away from the Classroom!

LS28: Camouflage and Mimicry (Recommended for Grades 3-5)

Please use the following resources to learn about Camouflage and Mimicry

Watch these Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AyzsbSJyRKs> and

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGZX1_Zy-74

Answer these questions:

- How do animals use camouflage and mimicry?
- What was the coolest mimic you learned about in the video?
- What is Batesian mimicry?
- Many mimicry adaptations fool our eyes, can you think of examples from the video to fool our ears instead?

Activity:

You will need:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 sheets of green paper• 1 hole punch (or scissors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3+ sheets of paper in other colors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timer• Calculator
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Follow these directions to investigate the impact of camouflage on animal survival by role playing a hawk hunting your prey!

1. Lay one sheet of green paper on a table to create a background habitat.
2. Use the hole punch* to punch out 20 circles from each of your chosen sheets of colored construction paper. Make sure one of the sheets you punch holes in is the same green as your background sheet. *If you don't have a hole puncher, you can use scissors to cut circles instead. Try to keep them small!
3. Scatter all the punched out holes onto the background sheet. Make sure that the circles are somewhat evenly spaced and without color clumping.
4. Set a timer for 15 seconds
5. Gather as many of the punched out circles as you can in the 15 seconds. It is important to pick them up individually, rather than simply lifting the sheet and sweeping them all into your hand.
6. Write down how many of each color you collected (ate).
7. For 7th and 8th grades: Figure out the percentage of each color you "ate". To calculate a color's percentage, take [the # of circles "eaten" of a single color] divided by [the total # of circles "eaten" that round] x 100. (Example: You caught 10 red circles and 50 circles total. 20% of your prey were red.)
8. Repeat the game, but this time use one of the other colors you made hole punched circles out from as your background.

Note: This game can be played by multiple people if you want to involve your parents and/or siblings! You can challenge yourself by using tweezers to "eat" the circles.



Watch this video if you need help with the activity: [LS28 Camouflage and Mimicry.mp4](#)

Make observations & use Claims, Evidence, and Reasoning!

1. **Claim:** Camouflage helps animals avoid being eaten.

- **Evidence:**

- **Reasoning:**

2. **Claim:** The closer the match between an animal and its habitat the less likely they are to be eaten.

- **Evidence:**

- **Reasoning:**