



Fish Camouflage



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Review

DO

Goals:

- 1) To understand what camouflage is
- 2) To learn why they use camouflage in the army
- 3) To learn why camouflage is used in nature

Materials:

- 1) Fish cutout copies
- 2) Crayons
- 3) Tape
- 4) Camouflage stickers (army or nature)
- 5) Picture of army camouflage
- 6) Picture of chameleon on tree

Step 1: Tell the kids we are going to learn about **camouflage**. Have they ever heard of that word? Ask for examples of what they think it means.....Allow for discussion of why the army uses camouflage...**So camouflage is when something blends in with its surroundings so it can not be seen.**

Step 2: Now challenge the students that they will have to camouflage a fish by coloring it in, to their best ability after picking a place they will put it. Hint: they cannot hide the fish; it has to be visible, just like a chameleon on a stick

Step 3: Pass out crayons and fish drawings and have the kids start coloring the fish with where they picked to tape it. Remind them to not tell anyone where they are putting their fish, or make it obvious where they are looking. This is a competition! The winners who do not get found get a prize! ---**Steps 1-3 estimated time 20 minutes**



Step 4: When the students are finished coloring place tape behind each student's fish rolled up.

Step 6: Then have each student line up and face the wall with their fish. Tell them no peaking and that when they feel you tap their back they can go place their fish in their chosen spot for camouflage.

Step 7: As the students face their back towards the wall, tap each student one by one after they have placed the fish and returned to face the wall.

Step 8: When all the youth have had a turn, say; "Ready, Set, Go!" and they have to try to find all the fishes. The ones that are not **Steps 4-8: -25 minutes**

Step 9: Come back to a circle after all the area has been searched. Discuss why were the fishes that were not found, not discovered? What were the best techniques used? If all of the fish were discovered then discuss why they were all discovered and what could have been done better for them to be more camouflaged.

Step 10: Ask why they think camouflage is used in the army? Why is it used in nature?

Step 11: Tell everyone they did a great job and pass out stickers to everyone for participating, not just the winners. **Steps 9-11: - 15 minutes**

DID YOU KNOW??

Did you know that there is an endangered bird that lives in RI beaches in the summer? This bird not only camouflages its body into the sand but also lays eggs that look just like pebble beach rocks! That's why they are endangered because people step on them. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spends many hours looking for the eggs and fences around them to protect them.



MORE FUN!

Go on a nature hike and see how many animals you observe that camouflage in their own way!