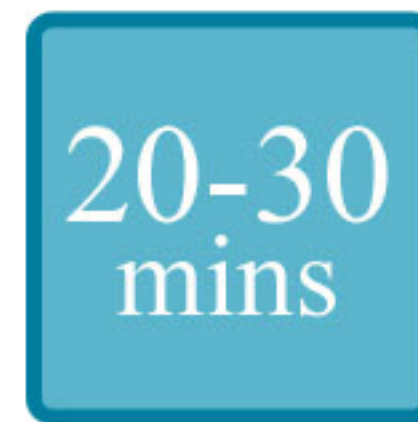


Learning objectives

- To encourage pupils to think about camouflage in the natural world.
- To enhance pupils observational skills.
- To think about the difference between natural and man-made objects.



Teacher Preparation

Site visit, risk assessment and collection of materials.

Equipment & Resources

- A safe area for pupils to use for the investigation.
- 20 different objects.

Main activity

1. Prepare by hiding about 10 - 20 different objects in a small area outdoors. Choose some items that will blend into the environment e.g. clothes peg, rusty chain but also make sure some of them are brightly coloured and easily spotted e.g. a balloon, empty drinks can. You can hide the objects at different heights. Keep the number of objects you have planted a secret.
2. Allow the pupils to go around the area, a few at a time and try to spot as many objects as possible. It may be an idea to rope off the area so that the pupils are a few feet from the objects. When they think they have seen all the hidden objects, ask them to list them. Tell them if there are any they have not found, and let them look again.
3. When they think they have discovered all of the objects, discuss which were the most difficult items to spot and why. Talk about the uses of camouflage and colour in the natural world.
4. A variation of this game can be played using cut out minibeasts, (which the children have all coloured in). Discuss which colours they found first. This is a good way to introduce camouflage and warning colours in minibeasts.