Walnut Ridge Elementary

Alternative Method of Instruction Verification Form

Day 1 _____ Day 2 _____ Day 3 _____ Day 4 _____ Day 5 _____

Day 6 _____ Day 7 _____ Day 8 _____ Day 9 _____ Day 10 ✓

This form certifies that your child completed work for the designated day. This will allow your child to receive attendance credit for this day. In the event it is not completed, your child will receive an unexcused absence.

My child, _____ completed all work assigned for Day _____

My child also worked on the following website:

_____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Day 10 Instructions:

- <u>Reading and Science</u>: Read the passage and complete the questions that follow.

- <u>Math</u>: Complete math problems.

- <u>Writing</u>: Complete the writing prompt with at least 5-7 sentences if not more.

Name: _____

Camouflaged Creatures

by Guy Belleranti

In nature, predators and prey seem to play a game of hide-and-seek. Prey need to hide, so predators do not find them and eat them. Predators need to hide too, so smaller prey cannot see them approaching. Some animals have special colors or marks on their bodies that help them hide among trees, rocks, and grass. This blending is called camouflage.

The earth tone colors of deer and squirrels help them hide from predators among the browns of trees, bushes and soil. A brown squirrel can be difficult to see when it is scampering among brown autumn leaves. A brown deer can be overlooked when it is hiding between tree trunks. The deer and squirrel's special coloring help them hide from predators.
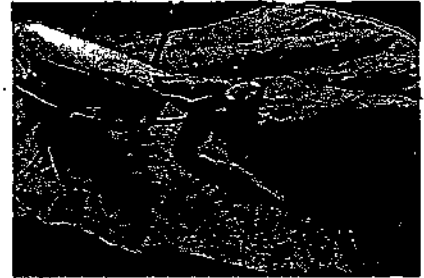
African lions have a tan body coloring. However, lions use it not to hide from predators, but to hide in savanna grasses while watching for prey. A lion can sneak up on prey without being seen more easily by blending into the grassy environment.

Another popular animal camouflage color is green. The green tree frogs of Australia blend in and hide from predators better because of their color. Green tree pythons and emerald boas; meanwhile, are more like lions, using their green color to blend in. When a likely meal (a rodent, bird or lizard) comes along these snakes strike quickly, catching the prey.

Can you see the green snake in this picture? The snake's shape and color help it hide among the green forest leaves.

This owl sleeps during the day, so it does not want to be seen by other animals. Notice how its feather pattern and coloring match the tree trunk.
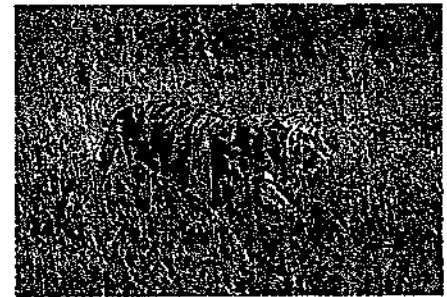

Is this polar bear camouflaged to protect itself from predators or to hunt prey?

The praying mantis takes things a step further. While its green to brown color helps it blend in with vegetation, the mantis also mimics the shape of a stem or leaf. The mantis uses these camouflage methods both to hide from predators like birds, frogs, snakes, spiders and bats, and to await prey such as insects (including other mantises!), spiders, hummingbirds, and small frogs and mice.

This praying mantis' body mimics its environment. It looks much like a leaf or twig. This type of blending is called mimicry.

Just as important as color camouflage and mimicry is pattern camouflage. Tiger stripes and leopard and jaguar spots are all patterns which help these cats hide among the plants and shadows when they search for prey.

In nature, hide-and-seek is a game of life and death. Pattern and color camouflage, and mimicry, can give predators and prey a survival advantage. Can you think of any other animals that have camouflage?

A tiger has vertical stripes that help to hide it among tall grass. This is pattern camouflage.
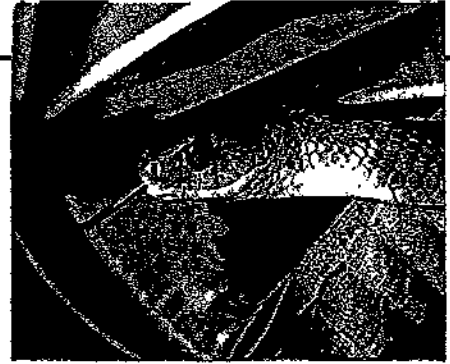
About the Author

Guy Belleranti is an author of fiction, poetry, articles, puzzles, and humor for children and adults. He also works as a docent at the Reid Park Zoo in Tucson, Arizona. The information in this article comes from his experiences teaching children about the wild animals at the zoo.

Camouflaged Creatures

by Guy Belleranti

1. How does a lion's special coloring help it survive?

    a. It helps protect the lion from predators.

    b. It helps the lion sneak up on predators without being heard.

    c. It helps the lion hunt prey without being seen.

    d. It makes the lion completely invisible.

2. Explain how a praying mantis uses more than just color to blend into its surroundings.

    _____

    _____

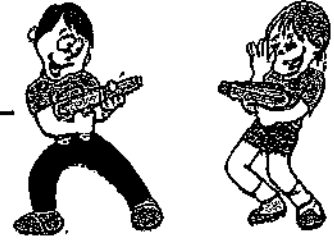3. How does camouflage help a polar bear become a better predator?

    a. It makes the polar bear more difficult to see in the woods.

    b. It makes the polar bear more difficult to see on rocky ledges.

    c. It makes the polar bear more difficult to see in a snowy environment.

    d. It makes the polar bear more difficult to see underwater.

4. Read the following sentence from the article and choose the best definition for the underlined words.

    The underlined earth tone colors of deer and squirrels help them hide from predators.

    a. color of summer leaves

    b. color of the morning sky

    c. color of soil and ground

    d. color of the planet Earth

Challenge: Draw a picture of a scene in nature. Include several camouflaged animals in your picture.

Name: _____

Multiple-Step Problems

a. Craig has a twenty dollar bill. He buys six squirt guns for $2 each. How much money did Craig have left?

_____

b. Maria invited 4 of her friends over for a water balloon fight in the backyard. At the start of the game, Maria gave each of her friends 2 water balloons. She had one water balloon for herself. How many water balloons did they have altogether?

_____

c. Matthew and his brother Shawn played swimming-pool-basketball. Each basket was worth 3 points. Matthew scored 9 points. Shawn scored 6 points. What is the total number of baskets made during this game?

_____

d. Lauren and Gina's mother told her daughters they can swim in the pool for 20 minutes. First, they swam laps in the pool for 7 minutes. Then they swam underwater for one minute. Then they played water polo for 8 minutes. How much longer can they stay in the pool?

_____

Name: _____

My Restaurant

Imagine you opened your own restaurant. Explain what the restaurant looks like, who works there, and what you serve.

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