

## Mimicry and camouflage

Topic/language idea: Mimicry and camouflage.

Class: Middle school/high school

Level: Intermediate/ upper-intermediate.

Time : 45 minutes

Aims:

- To learn about adaptation and survival techniques
- To learn about camouflage
- To learn about disruptive colouring
- To learn about disguise
- To learn about mimicry
- To learn definitions and examples of camouflage
- To look for specific information on the internet
- To read for specific information
- To transfer the information.
- To use web pages

CLIL: ecology, biology

Materials : included photocopies, access to the internet and personal computer, speakers.

STAGE	AIMS	PROCEDURE	CLASSROOM LANGUAGE	TIME	MATERIALS
Introduction	To start the lesson	Check the register / check homework		1 min/ 6 min	
Warm –up activity	To provide students with introduction to the topic	Brainstorming as a class- ask the stu- dents for ideas to the questions.  Write the ideas on the board.	Animals developed many survival techniques. Can you give any examples of animal adaptation ? What increases their chance of survival ?	3 min	
The main part of the lesson	To get basic infor- mation about cam- ouflage as a survival technique.	Ask the students to go online and watch two films about camouflage.  Ask the students to give a definition of camouflage. What is it used for?	Watch two films about animal camouflage. What did you learn from them ?  <a href="http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/fish_camouflage">http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/fish_camouflage</a>  <a href="http://animals.howstuffworks.com/animal-facts/animal-camouflage.htm">http://animals.howstuffworks.com/animal-facts/animal-camouflage.htm</a>	7 min	Worksheet 1  Internet

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	<p>To learn about four different types of camouflage.</p> <p>To learn the examples of camouflage.</p>	<p>Ask the student to work in pairs, go online and find basic information about each type of camouflage.</p> <p>Check answers as a class after each type.</p>	<p>There are four basic types of camouflage :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• concealing camouflage</li> <li>• disruptive coloration</li> <li>• disguise</li> <li>• mimicry</li> </ul> <p>Go to</p> <p><a href="http://oakdome.com/k5/lesson-plans/powerpoint/animal-camouflage-pictures-and-information.php">http://oakdome.com/k5/lesson-plans/powerpoint/animal-camouflage-pictures-and-information.php</a> to find a quick definition and examples of each.</p>	7 min	
	<p>To further the knowledge of camouflage</p>	<p>Divide the class into four groups.</p> <p>Give one type of camouflage to each group and ask the students to read more and prepare a short presentation to the rest of the class.</p> <p>Stress the importance of photos!</p> <p>Ask the groups to present to the rest of the class.</p>	<p>In small groups choose one of the camouflage types, look for more information and examples and tell the rest of the class what you have learnt.</p> <p><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/adaptations/Camouflage">http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/adaptations/Camouflage</a></p> <p><a href="http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/wd-ep3-frogs?-source=relatedvideo">http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/wd-ep3-frogs?-source=relatedvideo</a></p> <p><a href="http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/worlds-deadliest-ngs/deadliest-cuttlefish-hypnosis?-source=relatedvideo">http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/worlds-deadliest-ngs/deadliest-cuttlefish-hypnosis?-source=relatedvideo</a></p> <p><a href="http://animals.howstuffworks.com/animal-facts/animal-camouflage.htm">http://animals.howstuffworks.com/animal-facts/animal-camouflage.htm</a></p> <p><a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crypsis">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crypsis</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.brighthub.com/environment/science-environmental/articles/68533.aspx">http://www.brighthub.com/environment/science-environmental/articles/68533.aspx</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/leopards/seeingsans.html">http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/leopards/seeingsans.html</a></p>	20 min	
Wrap- up	To play a game	<p>Tell the students to go online, try to spot the animal, listen to the commentary.</p>	<p>Are you a good detective ? Go to <a href="http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2009/08/mimicry/mimicry-interactive">http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2009/08/mimicry/mimicry-interactive</a> and see if you can spot creatures exhibiting mimicry behaviour.</p>	5 min	

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Sources:

[http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/fish\\_camouflage](http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/fish_camouflage)

<http://animals.howstuffworks.com/animal-facts/animal-camouflage.htm>

<http://oakdome.com/k5/lesson-plans/powerpoint/animal-camouflage-pictures-and-information.php>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/adaptations/Camouflage>

<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/wd-ep3-frogs?source=relatedvideo>

<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/worlds-deadliest-ngs/deadliest-cuttlefish-hypnosis?-source=relatedvideo>

<http://animals.howstuffworks.com/animal-facts/animal-camouflage.htm>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crypsis>

<http://www.brighthub.com/environment/science-environmental/articles/68533.aspx>

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/leopards/seeingsans.html>