



Wildlife Ambassadors

Owl Camouflage Activity Teacher Guide

Camouflage is a fun adaptation to teach about, because it is like a game of hide and seek with animals! This activity will highlight how difficult it can be for another animal (maybe a predator!) to spot the owl which is hiding with its amazing camouflage.

Materials:

- Owl outline (one per student)
- Scissors
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils of your choosing
- Tape

Directions:

1. Print and cut out the outline of the owl on the following page so each student has one owl.
2. Instruct students to color their owl so that it will blend in with a specific spot in the classroom. This spot **MUST** be visible to someone walking into the room; not hidden completely behind or under something. Younger students may need help choosing a spot that works.
3. Then split into two groups. One group will wait with eyes covered or out in the hallway while the other group tapes up their camouflaged owls to their chosen spot.
4. Let the outside group back in and see how long it takes for all of the owls to be discovered.
5. Switch roles so you can test the second group's searching skills!

Discussion:

- Which owls were the hardest to spot?
- Do you think the owls know they are using camouflage?
- What might happen if the habitat (area where the owl is hiding, their home) were to change?
- What are some reasons why the habitat may be changing?
- What is one thing we can do to help the owls so that their habitats/homes do not have big changes?