



Project Exploration creates transformative learning opportunities for youth underrepresented in the sciences –particularly students of color and girls – by equipping them with the skills, practices, and mindset needed for a lifelong pursuit of learning. STEM@Home makes activities around science, technology, engineering, and math accessible and fun to do at home. This STEMbook activity, resources, and more are available at [www.projectexploration.org/stemathome](http://www.projectexploration.org/stemathome).

## In this activity, you will:

Learn why animals camouflage and practice it yourself!

## Supplies Required:

Assortment of clothes  
Pen and paper  
Camera

## Video

What is camouflage? <https://tinyurl.com/y9n3esfv>

## Overview

Animals have to hide from predators in their natural habitat in order to avoid being eaten or attacked. One way they hide is through camouflage. There are four types of camouflage: concealing coloration, disruptive coloration, mimicry, and disguise. Concealing coloration is when an animal hides in an environment of the same color. Disruptive coloration is when animals have patterns like spots and stripes that make it harder to see their bodies. Mimicry is when an animal pretends to be a more dangerous animal so they don't get attacked. Disguise is when an animal blends into their environment by looking like something else in the environment. Look at the photos below and see if you can pick which type of camouflage each is using!



## Instructions

1. We're going to practice concealing coloration. Pick a spot in your house to camouflage against. Write down what colors there are.
2. Pick out some clothes to match the spot in your house. Ask your family members if you can borrow their clothes to disguise yourself!
3. Ask a family member to take a picture of yourself camouflaging. Can you spot yourself in the picture? What would you have to change to camouflage even better?
4. Try to camouflage with different areas of your house!

## Additional Resources

**Think About It!** Why is it beneficial to animals to have camouflage? What are some animals that camouflage really well? Imagine if an animal's habitat changed, how would that affect their ability to camouflage?

1. More camouflage activities: <https://tinyurl.com/y7hs2wjz>
2. Amazing animal camouflage: <https://tinyurl.com/ybsmym57>
3. What are habitats? <https://tinyurl.com/nvmbk3r>

## Share It Out

**Share on social media:** How well were you hidden? Share your camouflage picture on social media and ask your friends to do the same! Use the hashtags:

#Camouflage  
#ProjectExploration  
#StemAtHome

**Share via PE's website:** Students who complete STEM@home activities and share what they learned with the PE team via our website will earn points which can be traded in for cash prizes at the Explore Store. Your project number is 227. Learn more at [www.projectexploration.org/explore-store](http://www.projectexploration.org/explore-store)

### Join PE's character contest!

Design a STEM character who will lead kids through activities and be featured on our website and in our STEMbooks. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 3 finalists. Learn more at: [www.projectexploration.org/character-contest](http://www.projectexploration.org/character-contest).



Call or text us for help: 312-772-6634



[www.projectexploration.org](http://www.projectexploration.org)