

# Camouflage



## Camouflage Teachers' Notes

**Learning objective:** Year 1, 8c: Distinguish fiction and non-fiction texts and the different purposes for reading them

**Key words:** camouflage, colouring, leopard, crocodiles

**Cross-curricular/theme links:** Science, animal adaptations to habitat

**Genre:** Non-fiction

**NC level:** Approximately Level 1B-1A

**Assessment:** AF7, Level 1: A few basic features of information texts distinguished

**Word count:** 210

### Getting started

Read the title and back cover blurb together. Do the children know what camouflage is? Can they think of any examples of animals that use camouflage to hide? Flip quickly through the book to establish the types of animals covered.

### Guided reading

**Pages 2-3:** Check that the children understand what camouflage is. Can they explain how the lion blends into the background? Ask: 'What helps him blend in? Is it his colour, the fact that his mane looks a bit like the grasses around him, or something else?'

**Pages 4-7:** As the children read, remind them to use their phonic knowledge to help them tackle any unknown words, for example by breaking longer words down into syllables and sounding out each syllable in turn. On page 6, can the children explain how the snake's shape and colour help it hide?

**Pages 8-15:** Continue to ask the children to explain how each animal is camouflaged. Ask: 'Which sort of camouflage do you think is most effective?'

**Page 16:** Ask: 'Do you think this makes a good ending for the book? Do you think their camouflage makes the crocodiles more dangerous? Why?'

### Speaking and listening

- In pairs, ask the children to tell their partner which animal from the book they thought had the most effective camouflage, and why.
- Come back together as a whole group. Which animal got the most votes for the best camouflage?

### After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the book.

- Can you tell me some examples of animals that use camouflage?
- Which picture in this book did you think showed the most amazing camouflage? Why?
- Can you think of any ways in which camouflage is useful to animals?

### Reading into writing

Ask the children to imagine that they needed to hide somewhere in the school grounds. Can they design, draw and label a camouflage suit for themselves that would help them hide?

### Book quiz for children

- 1 How do the leopard's spots help it hide?
- 2 Can you find two different examples of animals that hide in trees?
- 3 Can you find an example of an animal that uses its shape as a sort of camouflage?

### Support for less confident readers

Before the children read the book, make sure that they understand the concept of camouflage and that they are familiar with a few examples of animals that use camouflage. You could take them through the book before they read it, looking at the photos and introducing the animal names.

### Extension for more confident readers

Encourage the children to do some research in books or on the internet, to find out more about their favourite camouflaged animal from the book.